



How the Early Years Entitlement Funding works at Lichfield Cathedral School

Lichfield Cathedral School

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What is Early Years Entitlement Funding?

The government provides funding for all three and four year old children, starting from the funding period after their third birthday until they start school (usually at statutory school age – the term following their fifth birthday), to attend an Ofsted/ISI registered early years and childcare setting. Such settings include pre-schools, nurseries, certain child minders, school nursery classes and nursery schools. These children qualify for 15 hours of free Early Years Entitlement per week for up to 38 weeks per year, during school term time.

This funding is available to children attending Lichfield Cathedral School at our Longdon site. This document explains how the funding works for children attending Pre-School and Reception classes.

Pre-School

Children are accepted into Pre-School the term starting after their third birthday. Funding for 3 and 4 year olds is available to everyone up to a maximum of 15 free hours per week.

The Cathedral School offers children structured learning in a creative environment. This differentiates what we do from a nursery – continuity of attendance is crucial to the delivery of the curriculum and to enable the cumulative development of skills.

Therefore, the Cathedral School offers parents the choice to access these 15 free hours in one of two ways:

1. **EITHER** 5 mornings per week: 5 x 3 hour sessions from 8.50am to 11.50am
2. **OR** 2 consecutive full days and 1 morning half day, comprising either:
 - a. All day Monday and Tuesday, plus Wednesday morning
 - b. All day Tuesday and Wednesday, plus Thursday morning
 - c. All day Wednesday and Thursday, plus Friday morning

Parents are able to split the funded hours between two providers. Parents must inform Lichfield Cathedral School if they are accessing the funding entitlement at another provider.

The Lichfield Cathedral School academic year is approximately 34 weeks. Government funding is available for children attending for 38 weeks per year. Therefore, parents can use their entitlement to the 4 additional weeks with another provider.

The funding is connected to the child, so if the child moves to a new provider, the funding moves with them.

On days when a child is absent due to sickness, holiday or adverse weather, Lichfield Cathedral School will endeavour to offer the funded hours at an alternative time, but it is not obliged to do so.

Optional extras in Pre-School

Additional hours

Parents can add more hours to this provision, for example, children can attend the school for 5 whole days. Parents will be charged for any additional hours used on top of their Early Years Funding entitlement.

The costs of additional hours are:

Lunch = £3 per day (lunch is included if using the funding entitlement for 2 full days)

Half day session = £25 (morning or afternoon)

Parents paying for additional sessions will be required to complete the usual admissions procedure for the School including:

- The payment of a deposit (£350) and a registration fee (£150).
- The payment of £6.20 per child per term for personal accident insurance which includes a dental accident scheme.

Educational visits

Educational trips outside of school (e.g. to farms and nature trails or to Lichfield Library) and special educational events that take place at school (e.g. visiting theatre productions) are charged separately. Children attending for 15 free hours only can opt out of these visits and the school will offer an alternative to the funded hours missed.

Reception Class

The Early Years Funding is available to children up to their 5th birthday, so it may be applicable during some or all of the Reception year (depending on when your child's birthday falls within the academic year).

The Reception class at Lichfield Cathedral School is full-time – there is no option for part-time attendance.

The 15 free hours will apply to five mornings each week (5 x 3 hours). Therefore, parents will be required to pay for the additional time. The cost of the Reception class will therefore be as follows:

For children who are 4 years of age: £1,615 per term

For children who are 5 years of age: £2,690 per term

The Reception Class day starts at 8.50am and finishes at 3.20pm.

Parents will be required to complete the usual admissions procedure for the School including:

- The payment of a deposit (£350) and a registration fee (£150).
- The payment of £6.20 per child per term for personal accident insurance incorporating which includes a dental accident scheme.

How to apply for a place in Pre-School or Reception Class

If you are interested in a place at Lichfield Cathedral School for your child, please contact our Registrar:

Lesley Bannister on 01543 306168
or email lesley.bannister@lichfieldcathedralschool.com

You will be invited to tour the school at Longdon Green to meet our wonderful teachers and pupils. This can be on an Open Morning or on any other school day that is convenient for you.

If you would like to apply for a place, you will be asked to complete an application form for the school and an Early Years Entitlement Funding form.

If we have a place available, you will be sent an Offer Letter and a Form of Acceptance. Once the Form of Acceptance has been completed and returned, your child's place at Lichfield Cathedral School will be confirmed.

We run a series of half-hour library visits for new children to familiarise them with the school in the term preceding their start date. This gives children and parents the opportunity to get to know the staff and the physical environment before their first day of school.

Fees are payable on or before the first day of term and a full term's notice in writing or payment of a term's fees in lieu of notice is required before a child can be removed from the School. Further, no other remissions from the School are available to those children entitled to Early Years Entitlement Funding.

Before-School and After-School sessions (7.30am to 8.50am and 3.00pm to 6.00pm) can be arranged with our external provider, Humpty Dumpty. Please contact Mrs Gale Cleverley at our Longdon site for details (01543 492782 or g.cleverley@lichfieldcathedralschool.com).