



Happy Hive Preschool

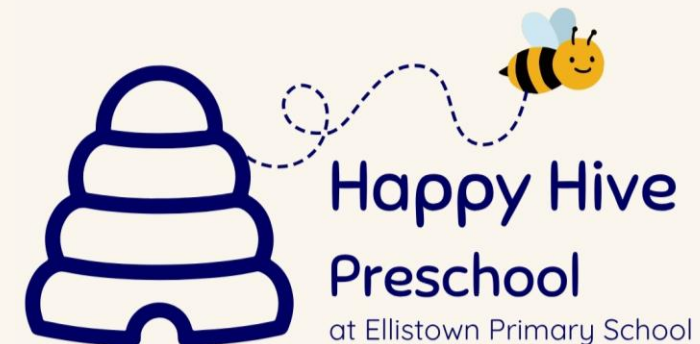
EARLY YEARS FUNDING GUIDE

at Ellistown Primary School

WHO CAN GET FUNDED CHILDCARE?

Entitlement	Child's age	Eligibility	What you can receive	How to apply
Working parents entitlement	From the term after they turn 9 months until they start school	Read more on eligibility for the working parent entitlement	30 hours per week over 38 weeks of the year	You apply online on GOV.UK
For parents of 2-year-olds receiving some additional forms of support	From the term after they turn 2 years old	Read more on eligibility for this entitlement	15 hours per week over 38 weeks of the year.	Contact your childcare provider or your local council to apply for this scheme .
Universal entitlement for all 3 and 4-year-olds	From the term after they turn 3 years old through to starting school	All 3 and 4-year-olds are eligible.	15 hours per week over 38 weeks of the year. Can be combined with the working parents entitlement to make up 30 hours	Speak to your chosen childcare provider about if they can offer a place, and take them your child's birth certificate.

VISIT WWW.BESTSTARTINLIFE.GOV.UK



WHAT PRESCHOOL CHILDCARE FUNDING INCLUDES

The Government's 15 or 30 funded hours are based on school term times – that is 38 weeks per year – making 570 or 1140 hours annually.

Whilst this support is incredibly valuable, it is important to know what it actually includes.

The government funding helps to cover the basics needed for your child's early education – like paints, paper, stationary and other essentials.

It is designed to support the learning and care outlined in the Early Years Foundation Stage.

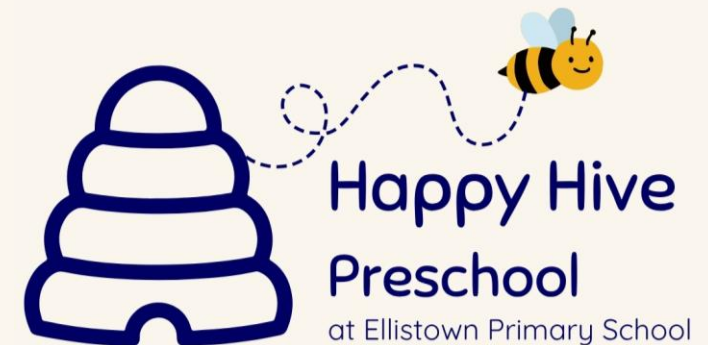
However, it does not include things such as snacks, nappies, extra curricular activities, online journal or extra hours.

BEYOND THE BASICS –WHAT'S NOT FUNDED

Whilst funding supports part of your child's place, it does not cover everything. To continue offering high-quality care, we ask for a contribution towards daily essentials and extra services that help us create a warm, engaging and nurturing high quality preschool experience.

Things like:

- Fresh healthy snacks
- Enrichment activities such as Forest schools, Sports Coach sessions, special visitors
- Enrichment sessions such as; yoga, food tasting and cooking
- Access to the school's adventure trim trail and nature garden
- Spare clothes, wellingtons and waterproofs
- Nappies and baby wipes
- Parties and seasonal celebrations
- Parents Evenings and events
- Access to digital updates and online learning journeys as well as photographs of your child to keep.



OUR PRESCHOOL SESSIONS

Core Preschool Sessions

Morning session: 🕒 8:30am – 11:30am (3 hours) £22.50 without funding

Afternoon session: 🕒 12:00pm – 3:00pm (3 hours) £22.50 without funding

✓ Funded early education hours are used within these sessions

✓ All children receive the same core learning provision

Any hours attended above a child's funded entitlement are charged at: £7.50 per hour

Applies only once funded hours are fully used

Breakfast club (optional)

£1.88 per 15mins

🕒 07:15am – 08:30am

- Charged separately, bookable in 15 minute increments.
- Children remain supervised by familiar adults
- Light breakfast will be provided
- Breakfast club sits outside government funded preschool hours

Lunch club (optional)

£3.75

🕒 11:30am – 12:00pm

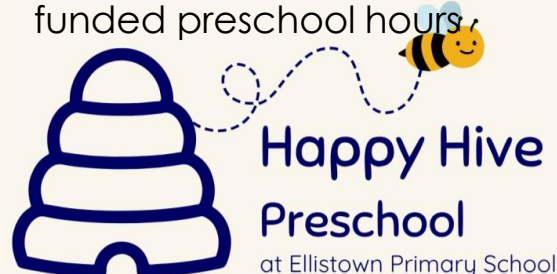
- Charged separately
- Children remain supervised by familiar adults
- Families may provide a packed lunch or order a hot meal via SchoolGrid
- Lunch club sits outside government funded preschool hours

After School Honeypot Club (optional)

£1.88 per 15mins

🕒 3:00pm-5:45pm

- Charged separately, bookable in 15 minute increments.
- Children remain supervised by familiar adults
- Light snack will be provided
- After School club sits outside government funded preschool hours



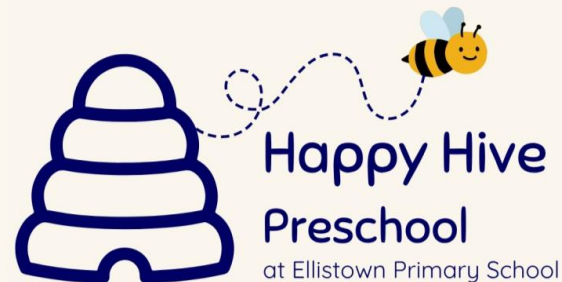
ATTENDANCE AND SESSION STRUCTURE

To support children's wellbeing, settling-in and relationships, Happy Hive Preschool has a minimum attendance requirement.

- Children must attend a minimum of **two sessions per week**
- Sessions must be booked as **complete morning or afternoon sessions**
 - Part-session bookings are not available

Regular attendance helps children feel secure, form strong relationships and benefit fully from their preschool experience.

These arrangements help us provide safe staffing levels and high-quality care for all children.



Hive Plus – Enriching the Preschool Experience

At Happy Hive Preschool, all children receive the same high-quality early years education as part of our core provision.

We also want our children to enjoy additional experiences and opportunities that go beyond what government funding alone covers.

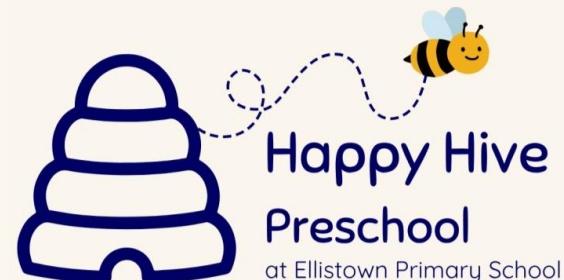
Hive Plus allows us to offer:

- Forest School Sessions
- Visits from a sports coach and other visitors
- A healthy daily snack
- Extended creative, practical and outdoor experiences
 - Cooking and food-based activities
- Special projects and themed experiences
 - Nappies and consumables provided

Hive Plus operates during core preschool sessions and relies on parental support to make these experiences possible.

We aim to make Hive Plus accessible and expect most families will choose to take part.

Hive Plus contribution: £2.00 per session. This contribution helps make these additional opportunities possible for our children.



HOW TO APPLY FOR YOUR CHILDCARE FUNDING CODE

Applying for your funding code is simple and takes around 20 minutes. Apply online at www.beststartinlife.gov.uk

Once approved, you will receive an 11 digit code (starting with 500). Please send your code and your national insurance number along with your child's date of birth to sarah.wilson@ellistown.leics.sch.uk

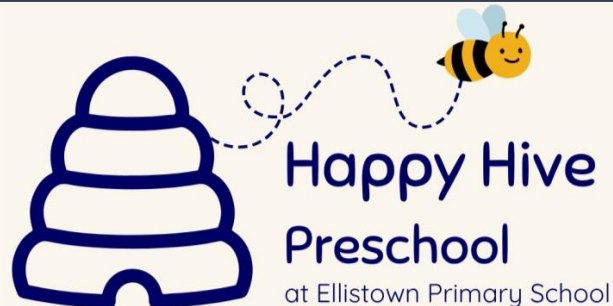
- Please note that you will need to reconfirm your eligibility, before the local authority deadline, approx. every 3, months to ensure your code is kept valid
- If you apply more than 3 months before the term starts, you will need to log back in to reconfirm before the funding term begins.
 - If you already use tax free childcare, you may need to wait until your reconfirmation date to apply.

Final steps - confirming your funding

About a month before your child's funded place begins, you will be required to complete a parental statement of undertaking (a PSOU). This gives us permission to claim the funding from the local authority.

We will also require a copy of your child's birth certificate.

The local authority will not release funding without a completed PSOU and a copy of the birth certificate. If these are not submitted on time, you may be responsible for covering the cost of your child's place until these documents are submitted to us.



ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

Tax Free Childcare

Tax-free childcare can be used alongside the 15 or 30 hour funding entitlement. For every £8 you pay into a dedicated online childcare account, the government contributes an additional £2, up to a maximum of £500 every three months (£2,000 annually) per child.

Early Years Pupil Premium (EYPP)

Please complete the form to allow us to check your eligibility or check the box on the PSOU form. Preschool may be able to claim additional money to support your child's education if you are currently in receipt of additional government support or if your child is "looked after" by the local authority.

Disability Access Fund (DAF)

Where a 3 or 4 year old receive disability living allowance (DLA) the nursery is eligible to apply for disability access funding. Please speak with our SENCo if you wish to discuss this.

