Nursery Funding for 3 and 4 year olds:

Your child is entitled to 15 hours of early education per week for 38 weeks of the year – free of charge.

The 38 weeks are divided into:

* Spring Term: 11 weeks at 15 hours per week (165 Hours per term)
* Summer Term: 13 weeks at 15 hours per week (195 hours per term)
* Autumn Term: 14 weeks at 15 hours per week (210 hours per term)

To receive the full 15 hours of free early education, your child must attend for a minimum of three days each week. You do not have to take up the full 15 hours.

You can use:

* A minimum of 2.5 hours in one day
* A maximum of 10 hours in one day
* A maximum of 12.5 hours over two days
* A maximum of 15 hours over one week

When can a child have a free place?

| **Children who are born between:** | **Will have a free place from the following:** |
| --- | --- |
| 1st April and 31st August | September |
| 1st September and 31st December | January |
| 1st January and 31st March | April |

**Where can I take up the free places?**

A child can take a total of 15 hours with one or two childcare providers. These must be registered with Worcestershire County Council to offer free places and include:

* Pre-Schools
* Playgroups
* Day nurseries
* Independent (private) schools
* Childminders who are part of an approved network and are accredited

There are a limited number of free places at local authority nurseries. You can apply for a place by contacting the Head teacher of the school. It is advisable to contact the school as soon as possible after your child’s second birthday. If places are oversubscribed, check the school policy to see how places are allocated.

For further information please click on the link below:

http://www.worcestershire.gov.uk/cms/education-and-learning/enjoy-and-achieve/early-years-and-childcare/family-information-service/childcare-childrens-centres/nursery-education-funding-faqs.aspx