



# EGERTON PRE-SCHOOL

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**Email: [egertonpreschool@aol.com](mailto:egertonpreschool@aol.com)**

REGISTERED CHARITY No 1018644

**Awarded "OUTSTANDING" OFSTED 2012**

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## Criteria for funded 2 year old places

The criteria for funded 2 year old places in Cheshire east will be extended at the beginning of summer term 2014. Low income families, children with a statement or education, health and care plan, recipients of Disability Living Allowance and care leavers will also be able to access a free place. Some of your existing fee paying children may become eligible to a free place.

Since September 2013 children from families meeting a strict economic criteria, or children who are Cared For, have been able to apply for two year old funding. Families that receive any of the following support payments may be eligible:

- Income Support
- Income-based Jobseekers Allowance
- Income-related Employment and Support Allowance
- Support under Part VI of the Immigration and Asylum Act 1999
- the guaranteed element of State Pension Credit
- Child Tax Credit (provided you're not also entitled to Working Tax Credit and have an annual gross income of no more than £16,190)
- Working Tax Credit run-on - paid for 4 weeks after you stop qualifying for Working Tax Credit
- Universal Credit

Additionally, discretionary consideration can be made to offer places to children who are subject to a Child Protection Plan, Child In Need Plan, a complex CAF, are the children of Care Leavers or have support from the Family Nurse Partnership scheme. Once a child has a place they will continue to be entitled even if family circumstances change, for example the family returns to work or the plan ends.

The statutory eligibility criteria will extend in September 2014. As well as the current rules, a child will then also be eligible if any of the following apply:

- you get Working Tax Credits and earn no more than £16,190 a year
- they have a current statement of special educational needs (SEN) or an education, health and care plan
- they get Disability Living Allowance
- they've left care through special guardianship or an adoption or residence order



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Cheshire East intends to introduce the additional criteria early, with effect from the beginning of summer term 2014.

The aim is:

- To improve outcomes for parents by supporting them to take up training or go back to work;
- To improve learning outcomes for two year olds in order to close the gap between those children living in the most disadvantaged communities

How many hours are available?

Up to 15 hours per week of free childcare may be accessed term time only (38 weeks of the year) or up to 11 hours per week if accessed over the whole year. Meals are not included. This will be subject to the childcare providers' opening times and availability.

## Checking Eligibility

Some of your existing fee paying children may become eligible to a funded place under the new criteria. Eligibility will be checked by the Cheshire East Family Information Service (FIS). **Enquires should be submitted online at [www.cheshireeast.gov.uk/FEEE](http://www.cheshireeast.gov.uk/FEEE) or by calling 0300 123 5033.** The parent or a third party, such as the childcare provider, may check eligibility. If you call you will need the parent's and child's date of birth together with the parent's National Insurance number. FIS will provide a confirmation letter to the family together with a list of approved providers within a 2 mile radius.