

60635 Council Funding for Early Years

I would like to know about how council funding for early years differs between council run and private nurseries

Specifically, I want to know the level of funding per child (in £) for funded hours for 3 years+ for council nurseries and private partner providers.

The funding mechanisms differ.

Local Authority nurseries are not directly funded on a per hour or per child basis, however the estimated annual average cost per child in financial year 2025/26 is £7,899.

Annual core funding to partner providers per child in financial year 2025/26, excluding meals, is £7,717.80.

I would also like to know how much the Edinburgh Council received for Early years in the last years vs how much the Council allocated and spent on early years provision.

City of Edinburgh Council do not receive a specific funding allocation for Early Years provision.

All funding received is distributed to services based on the annual budget approved by elected members.