

Early Years Funded Weeks and Payment Schedule Financial Year: 2026/27

Funding Period	Summer 2026	Autumn 2026	Spring 2027	Summer 2027
EY Funding Period Dates:	01 April 2026 to 31 August 2026	01 September 2026 to 31 December 2026	01 Jan 2027 to 31 March 2027	01 Apr 2027 to 31 August 2027
Headcount date:	Thurs 21 May 2026	Thurs 1 October 2026	Thurs 21 January 2027	Thurs 20 May 2027
Number of LA funded weeks in the period based on 15 hours:	12	15	11	12
Maximum amount of 'stretch weeks' available in the period:	22	17	13	22
9 month old funded hours in the period:	360	450	330	360
Targeted 2 yr old funded hours in the period:	180	225	165	180
Expanded 2 yr old funded hours in the period:	360	450	330	360
3 & 4 yr old Universal hours in the period:	180	225	165	180
3 & 4 yr old Extended hours in the period:	180	225	165	180
Combined Universal and Extended hours (30- hour places)	360	450	330	360
<p>Please note: Providers need to clearly state how they will be delivering the child's entitlement, which includes specifying exactly how the funded weeks will be delivered over the academic year. Please remember the funding periods will not always reflect school term dates. Providers must clearly record how the funded hours will be delivered across each term using the Parent/Carer Agreement.</p>				

Funding Rates: April 2026 to March 2027				
Funding Type	9- 23 Months	2-Year-olds	3&4-Year-olds	
Base Rate	£11.15	£8.03	£5.56	
Deprivation Rate *	£3.34	£3.22	£1.67	
Average Rate*	£11.75	£8.68	£5.90	
Early Years Pupil Premium (Up to a maximum of 15 hours only)	£1.15	£1.15	£1.15	
Disability Access Funding	£975 per year (one setting only)			
<p>Please note: * Providers will receive a proportion of the deprivation rate dependent on their Income Deprivation Affecting Children Index (IDACI) score. <i>The more 'Early Learning 2-year-old places' a provider delivers, the greater the proportion of the deprivation rate they will receive.</i></p>				

Data Collection Schedule				
Funding Period	Summer 2026	Autumn 2026	Spring 2027	
Forecast task opens	Fri 27/02/26	Fri 03/07/26	Fri 20/11/26	
Forecast task closes	Sun 08/03/26	Sun 09/08/26	Sun 29/11/26	
Headcount task opens	Thu 30/04/2026	Thu 10/09/26	Mon 04/01/27	
Headcount task closes	Fri 22/05/2026	Fri 02/10/26	Fri 22/01/27	
Amendment task opens* <i>Only for providers with LA approved changes</i>	Fri 19/06/26	Mon 09/11/26	Mon 15/02/27	
Amendment task closes* <i>Only for providers with LA approved changes</i>	Sun 28/06/26	Thu 19/11/26	Thu 25/02/27	
<p>The Summer 2027 Forecast task will open Friday 26th February 2027 and close Sunday 7th March 2027</p>				

Payment Schedule – Twice a Term Payment Option			
Funding Period	Summer 2026	Autumn 2026	Spring 2027
Interim payment due <i>Interim amount</i>	Tue 31/03/26 <i>75% of forecast data</i>	Fri 28/08/26 <i>75% of forecast data</i>	Thu 31/12/26 <i>66% of forecast data</i>
Actual payment due <i>Balancing amount due for term</i>	Approximately 7 weeks after headcount date <i>Actual data minus interim payment</i>	Approximately 7 weeks after headcount date <i>Actual data minus interim payment</i>	Approximately 7 weeks after headcount date <i>Actual data minus interim payment</i>
Amendment payment due	Approximately 3 weeks after amendment task closes	Approximately 3 weeks after amendment task closes	Approximately 3 weeks after amendment task closes

Payment Schedule – Monthly Payment Option			
Funding Period	Summer 2026	Autumn 2026	Spring 2027
First Payment <i>Interim amount</i>	Tue 31/03/26 <i>25% of forecast data</i>	Fri 28/08/26 <i>25% of forecast data</i>	Thu 31/12/26 <i>33% of forecast data</i>
Second Payment <i>Interim amount</i>	Thu 30/04/26 <i>25% of forecast data</i>	Wed 30/09/26 <i>25% of forecast data</i>	Fri 29/01/27 <i>33% of forecast data</i>
Third Payment <i>Interim amount</i>	Fri 29/05/26 <i>25% of forecast data</i>	Fri 30/10/26 <i>25% of forecast data</i>	Fri 26/02/27 <i>Actual data minus interim payments</i>
Fourth Payment <i>Balancing amount due for term</i>	Tue 30/06/26 <i>Actual data minus interim payments</i>	Mon 30/11/26 <i>Actual data minus interim payments</i>	N/A

Disability Access Funding (DAF) Schedule			
Funding Period	Summer 2026	Autumn 2026	Spring 2027
Data collection opens	Wed 01/04/2026	Tue 01/09/26	Fri 01/01/27
Data collection closes	Thu 16/05/26	Thu 01/10/26	Thu 21/01/27
DAF Payment due	3 weeks after data collection	3 weeks after data collection	3 weeks after data collection

Administration Charge:

When providers submit late, incomplete, or incorrect information in relation to the schedules above, Coventry City Council will apply an administration charge. If providers contact us within **5 working days** of receiving their *Estimated Headcount Submission Report* to report any errors, a reduced administration fee of **£48.50 plus VAT** will be applied. If providers contact us between **6 and 20 working days** after receiving their *Estimated Headcount Submission Report*, the full fee of **£97.00 plus VAT** will be applied.

These charges reflect the additional administrative work required to correct data and adjust funding claims.

Overpayments:

If money is owed to the local authority, due to an overpayment, it will be deducted from the next payment(s) that you are due. Invoices will be raised for all overpayments that remain outstanding in the final term of the financial year (Spring term). If a provider owes money and knows they will not have any funded children in subsequent terms, they should contact the Data Team to arrange for an invoice to be issued early.

Preventing Delays to Payments or Non-payments:

Invalid Codes – Providers are responsible for checking that all parental eligibility codes are valid for the term's headcount. Children should not be offered a funded place until the provider has confirmed the code is valid and knows which term it can be used from. HMRC codes only become valid from the start of the term after the parent applies. This rule is set nationally by HMRC. Local authorities cannot claim funding for any child who does not have a valid code by the deadline, even if the child is included on headcount. Therefore, providers will not receive funding for any child who does not have a valid code for that term.

Parent applies for a code between	Termly deadline for application by parent	The code will be <i>valid</i> for use from	The code will be valid for use in the following term
1 st January to 31 st March	31 st March	1 st April	Summer term
1 st April to 31 st August	31 st March	1 st September	Autumn term
1 st September to 31 st December	31 st December	1 st January	Spring term

Problems submitting information on the Early Years Portal – If there is a problem submitting information for the forecast, headcount or amendment tasks on the Early Years Portal please contact the Data team, as soon as possible. No payment will be made unless these tasks are completed, and the data submitted correctly. Guidance for completing tasks on the portal can be accessed from the following link: https://www.coventry.gov.uk/downloads/download/4880/early_years_portal_downloads

Change in bank account details – To prevent any delay in payment, please contact a member of the Business, Sufficiency and Funding team via EYProviderfunding@coventry.gov.uk and request a Supplier Set Up/Amendment form. This should be completed well in advance of payment, to allow time for this to be verified before payments are processed.

Local Authority Contacts:	
Early Years Business Sufficiency and Funding Team – EYProviderfunding@coventry.gov.uk	Early Years Policy Enquiries Early Years Funding Queries
Data Team – DataTeam.PD@coventry.gov.uk	Early Years Portal Enquiries Early Years Funding Queries
CapitaOneHelp@coventry.gov.uk	Login issues with Early Years Portal