

Free early education for two, three and four year old children 2021/2022



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What is free early education for two, three and four year old children?

In Blackburn with Darwen some two year old children and all three and four year old children can access free early education.

Free early education is an opportunity for your child to join in play based activities in a quality environment to support their developmental learning journey and prepare them for school.

Free early education is offered by a range of providers in the maintained, private, voluntary and independent sectors.

Early years providers offer various models of flexibility when delivering free early education. You will need to check directly with your preferred provider if they can offer the attendance pattern that you require for your child.

How will my child benefit from attending free early education?

Your child will have the chance to play and learn in an environment that will help to extend their skills and experiences, develop their confidence and build on what they already know.

Research clearly demonstrates that good quality early education benefits children in the long term in respect of enhancing their all-round development and helps them to prepare for school.

Further information can be found by visiting: <https://www.blackburn.gov.uk/schools-and-education/free-early-education-2-3-and-4-year-olds>



Free early education for two year old children

Some two year old children are eligible to access up to 570 hours of free early education a year.

If your child is eligible, they can access free early education from the term after their second birthday.

Please check the table on page 10 for details of when your child can start their free early education place.

How will I know if my two year old child is eligible for free early education?

Only children and/or families that meet the national criteria are eligible for a funded early education place. Please ensure you read the essential criteria listed on the right to check if you or your child are eligible before submitting your application online.

For more information on benefits go to: www.gov.uk

The national eligibility criteria

Your child may qualify if they have:

- been in local authority care for 1 day or more
- been adopted from local authority care
- left local authority care under a special guardianship order, a child arrangements order or an adoption order
- a statement of special educational needs (SEN) or an education, health and care plan (EHC)
- Disability Living Allowance

Or

As a parent/carer you may qualify if you receive any of the following benefits:

- Income Support
- Income-based Jobseeker's Allowance
- Income-related Employment and Support Allowance
- The guaranteed element of State Pension Credit
- Child Tax Credits or Working Tax Credits and they have a gross annual income of no more than £16,190
- Universal Credit and they have a net annual income of less than £15,400
- Working Tax Credit run-on, which is paid for 4 weeks after they stop qualifying for Working Tax Credit

You're a non-EEA citizen who cannot claim benefits and you:

- Claimed asylum in the UK and are waiting for a decision (known as 'part 6')
- Been refused asylum in the UK (known as 'section 4')

Your household income is £15,400 a year or less after tax, and you have either:

- Leave to remain with 'no recourse to public funds' on family or private life grounds
- The right to live in the UK because you're the main carer of a British citizen (known as a 'Zambrano Carer')
- You are excluded from claiming public funds as a consequence of your immigration status, or lack of immigration status; and you are in receipt of support under section 17 of the Children Act 1989

How do I apply for funded early education for my two year old?

Log onto:

<https://www.blackburn.gov.uk/SynergyWeb/Enquiries/Citizen/EarlyYears.aspx>

If you need help with the online application process or want to discuss your child's eligibility contact the families information service on **01254 667877**

Alternatively email: fis@blackburn.gov.uk or drop in to your nearest children's centre.

You will be advised via email if funding for your child has been approved.

If your child is eligible, you will receive an approval letter.

You will need to take this with you to your chosen childcare provider.

Please note: the completion of an online application does not guarantee a place.



Free early education for all three and four year old children

All three and four year old children can access up to a maximum of 570 hours of free early education a year.

In Blackburn with Darwen children start school the September following their fourth birthday.

Please check the table on page 10 for details of when your child can start their free early education.

Some children may also qualify for up to 30 hours of free early education per week (equivalent to 1140 hours a year), see page 8.

How do I apply for my three and four year old child's free early education?

Choose the early years provider(s) where you would like your child to get their free early education.

Contact or visit your preferred provider to ask for their admissions guidance and application form.



30 Hours Free Childcare

30 hours free childcare is available for families who meet the national eligibility criteria. (This is an additional 15 hours childcare per week on top of the universal offer).

These additional hours may be taken in term times or stretched over the whole year, including weekends and can be accessed flexibly to meet the needs of working parents.

To check your eligibility go to:

www.childcarechoices.gov.uk

Eligibility criteria

Both parents are working and/or:

- One parent working in lone parent family (earning equivalent of 16 hours a week on National Minimum Wage or Living Wage including those receiving tax credits or Universal Credit)
- One/both parent(s) is away on leave (parental, maternal, etc.)
- One/both parent(s) are in receipt of benefits in connection with sickness or parenting
- Both parents earn less than £100,000 each per annum

Or

- One parent is employed and;
- Other parent has either, substantial caring responsibilities and/or disability



Extending 30 Hours Free Childcare to children in foster care

Some children in foster care may be entitled to up to 30 hours of childcare for 38 weeks of the year giving foster families the same support as other working families.

This is an additional 15 hours of childcare to support working families and is on top of the 15 hours universal entitlement for all 3 and 4 year olds in England.



Eligibility criteria

Children in foster care who are aged 3 or 4 years old will be able to receive 30 hours free childcare, if the following criteria are met:

Accessing the extended hours is consistent with the child's care plan; and

- Where there is a single foster parent family, the foster parent is engaging in paid work outside their role as a foster parent; or
- Where there are two foster parents in the same fostering household, both are engaging in paid work outside their role as a foster parent.

If you think you are eligible for this funding, please speak to the child's social worker in the first instance to confirm that accessing the extended hours is consistent with the child's care plan. Once agreed, application forms can be accessed by contacting the early years funding team:

Email: earlyyears.funding@blackburn.gov.uk

Foster parents applying for 30 hours for their birth children should continue to use the Childcare Service on www.childcarechoices.gov.uk.

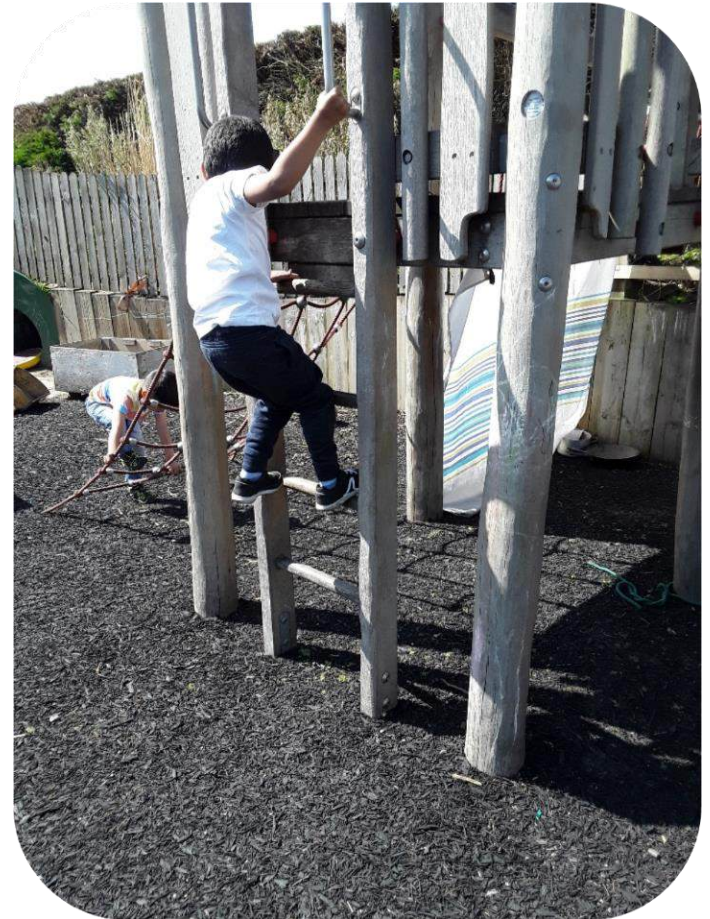
The dates for deciding when your child can start free early education are:

2 Year olds:

<i>My child's birthday falls</i>	<i>When can my child start?</i>
January 1st to March 31st	In April, after their second birthday
April 1st to August 31st	In September, after their second birthday
September 1st to December 31st	In January after their second birthday

3 & 4 Year olds:

<i>My child's birthday falls</i>	<i>When can my child start?</i>
January 1st to March 31st	In April, after their third birthday
April 1st to August 31st	In September, after their third birthday
September 1st to December 31st	In January after their third birthday



Early Years Pupil Premium (EYPP)

Early years providers are able to claim extra funding through the Early Years Pupil Premium (EYPP) to support your child's development, learning and care.

The extra funding can be used in a variety of ways to support your child's individual learning, through the early year's education.

If you feel that your child meets the criteria for this funding, then please speak to your childcare provider.

Eligibility

Some three and four year old children in funded early education will attract EYPP funding if they meet at least 1 of the following criteria:

Their family gets 1 of the following:

- Income Support
- Income-based Jobseeker's 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 they're not also entitled to Working Tax Credit and have an annual gross income of no more than £16,190)
- Universal Credit; if a parent is entitled to Universal Credit they must have an annual net earned income equivalent to and not exceeding £7,400, assessed on up to three of the parent's most recent Universal Credit assessment periods.
- Working Tax Credit run-on, which is paid for 4 weeks after they stop qualifying for Working Tax Credit

Or

Your child may qualify if:

- they have been in local authority care for 1 day or more in England or Wales
- they have been adopted from care in England or Wales
- they have left care under a special guardianship order or residence order in England or Wales

Children must receive free early education in order to attract EYPP funding. They do not have to take up the full universal 570 hours of free early education they are entitled to in order to get EYPP.

Disability Access Fund (DAF)

The Disability Access Fund (DAF) is available funding for early years providers to support children with disabilities or special educational needs. It aids access to early year s places by supporting providers in making reasonable adjustments to their settings.

Eligibility

Your child may qualify if they meet the following criteria:

- the child is in receipt of child disability living allowance (DLA) and;
- the child accesses their early education place at a registered Ofsted years provider

Note: 4-year olds in primary and infant school reception classes are NOT eligible for Disability Access Funding (DAF).

For children who attend more than one provider, parents need to be aware that only one payment can be made and they must nominate which provider that should be.

For more information go to:

www.gov.uk/disability-living-allowance-children

SEN Inclusion Fund

The SEN Inclusion Fund is to support local authorities to work with providers to address the needs of individual children with SEN.

Support is led and managed directly by the child's early year's provider with additional financial support per term paid directly to the early years provider for the provision of additional resources e.g. staffing, staff training, equipment

Eligibility

Your child may qualify if they meet the following criteria:

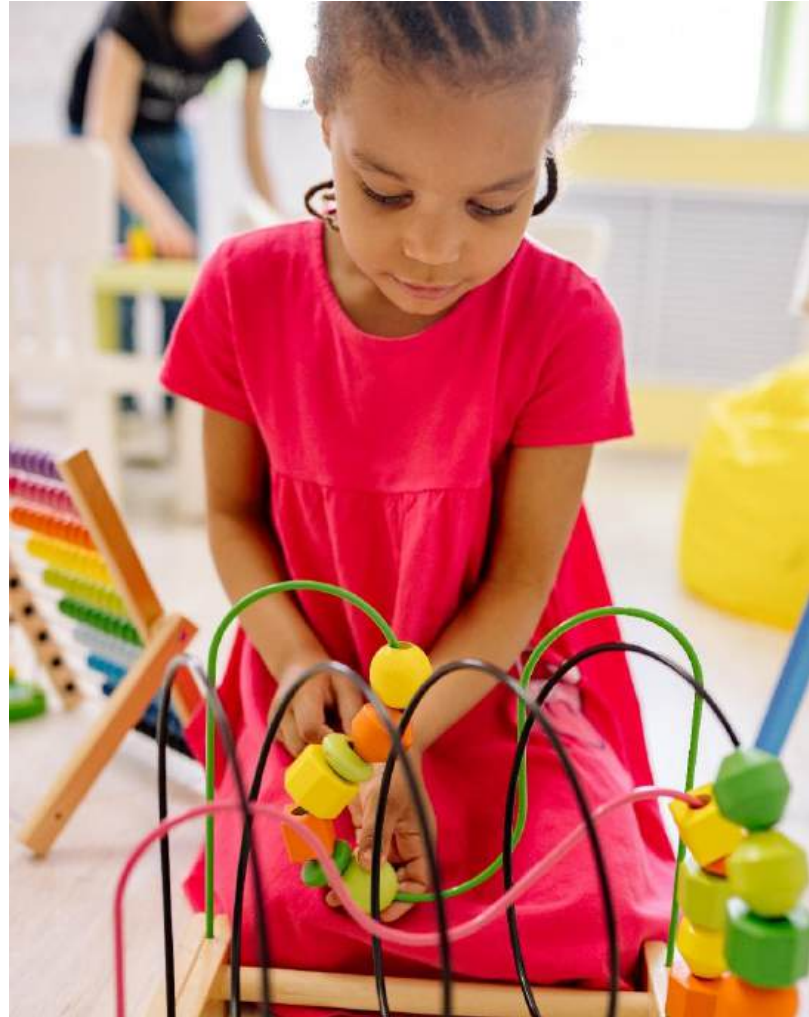
- the child is displaying some level of special educational needs and/or disabilities and;
- the child is assessed against the Early Years Foundation Stage (EYFS) at a development level of 16 to 26 months in one or more of the prime area of learning and;
- the child is subject to a CAF, Child Protection or Child in Need plan and;
- the child accesses the funded entitlement at an early years provider.

If you feel that your child meets the criteria for this funding, then please speak to **your childcare provider**.

Tax Free Childcare

Tax free childcare is a UK wide government scheme to help working parents with the cost of childcare. For every £8 paid in, the government will add an extra £2, up to £2,000 per child.

For more detailed information and how to apply go to:
www.childcarechoices.gov.uk



Private day nurseries, pre-schools and independent providers

Name	30 hrs	Address	Tel No
21st Century Kidz Nursery	✓	Emerald Street, Blackburn, BB1 9QJ	01254 681899
Beyond the Walls Outdoor Nursery	✓	The Old School, Chapels Lane, Tockholes, Darwen, BB3 0LX	07533 665541
Bumble Bees Nursery	✓	200 Old Bank Lane, Shadsworth, Blackburn, BB1 2HU	01254 589926
Dar Ul Madinah Uk Ltd	✓	Granville Road, Blackburn, BB2 6HD	01254 262823
Evolution Childcare	✓	Lions Drive, Shadsworth Business Park, Blackburn, BB1 2QS	01254 691787
Feniscowles Pre-school	✓	Immanuel Church Hall, 740 Preston Old Road, Blackburn, BB2 5EN	07940705799
Fernbank Nursery	✓	Lammack Primary School, Lammack Road, Blackburn, BB1 8LH	01254 689899
Greenview Nursery	✓	Green Lane Community Centre, Green Lane, Blackburn, BB2 4SR	01254 201027
Kiddiwinks Day Nursery	✓	1 Beechwood Cottages, Roman Road, Blackburn, BB1 2LB	01254 694604
Kittens Pre-school	✓	Veronica Street, Darwen, BB3 0AF	01254 761101
Les Enfants	✓	1-2 Lower Bank House, Avondale Road, Darwen, BB3 1JE	01254 760473
Little Cheeky Monkeys	✓	St Ives House, Accrington Road, BB1 2FB	07971539551

✓ = Provider Offers 30 Hours Free Early Education

Private day nurseries, pre-schools and independent providers

Name	30 hrs	Address	Tel No
Little Discoverers Ltd	✓	92 Preston New Road, Blackburn, BB2 6BH	01254 290244
Marshmallows Day Nursery	✓	Lower Marsh House, Marsh House Lane, Darwen, BB3 3JB	01254 873738
Nook Barn Nursery	✓	Nook Lane, Cherry Tree, Blackburn, BB2 4SN	01254 207676
Peek A Boo Childcare (Waterside)	✓	Ground Floor, Waterside Health Centre, Infirmary Street, Blackburn, BB2 3SF	01254 427477
Peek a Boo Childcare (Accrington Road)	✓	Accrington Road Children's Centre, Accrington Road, Blackburn, BB1 2AF	01254 427477
Peek A Boo Day Care (Shadsworth)	✓	Shadsworth Road, Blackburn, BB1 2HR	01254 433900
Peekaboo Day Care (Darwen)	✓	Duckworth Street, Darwen, BB3 1AT	01254 427977
Precious Moments Childcare	✓	Primrose House, Primrose Street, Darwen, BB3 2DE	01254 705151
Queen Elizabeth's Nursery School	✓	West Park Road, Blackburn, BB2 6DF	01254 686323
Rainbow Nursery	✓	33-35 Barleybank Street, Darwen, BB3 1NW	01254 771313
Rising Stars Private Day Nursery	✓	Lynwood Bryn, 107 Lynwood Avenue, Darwen, BB3 0HZ	01254 372393
Riverside Nursery	✓	Branch Road, Lower Darwen, BB3 0PR	01254 695777
Sallywags Preschool	✓	Turton and Edgworth Primary School, Bolton Road, Edgworth, Bolton, BL7 0AH	01204 853720
School House Nursery	✓	Meins Road, Blackburn, BB2 6QQ	01254 689808

✓ = Provider Offers 30 Hours Free Early Education

Private day nurseries, pre-schools and independent providers

Name	30 hrs	Address	Tel No
Shining Stars	✓	10 Randall St, Blackburn, BB1 7EG	01254 265760
Stepping Stones	✓	Mondeor, Hoddlesden Road, Hoddlesden, Darwen, BB3 3LR	01254 702013
The Jumbles Children's Nursery	✓	82 Wellington Road, Turton, BL7 0EF	01204 853160
The Old Vicarage	✓	32 Rutland Street, Blackburn, BB2 1UY	01254 677339 07973 222134
Tudor House Day Nursery @ Altom	✓	22-24 Altom Street, Blackburn, BB1 7ER	01254 427387
Tudor House Day Nursery @ Hancock Street	✓	Hancock St, Blackburn, BB2 2LZ	01254 51627
Tudor House Day Nursery @ King Street	✓	35 King Street, Blackburn, BB2 2DH	01254 262470
Tudor House Day Nursery @ Mill Hill	✓	New Chapel Street, Mill Hill, Blackburn, BB2 4DT	01254 433681
Tudor House Day Nursery @ Shear Brow	✓	22a Shear Brow, Blackburn, BB1 7EU	01254 485531
Welcome Nurseries @ Rainbow House	✓	Rainbow House, Agnes Street, Blackburn, BB2 2NR	01254 678800

✓ = Provider Offers 30 Hours Free Early Education

Nursery schools

Name	30 hrs	Address	Tel No
Ashworth Nursery School	✓	Addison Close, Blackburn, BB2 1QU	01254 263312
Brunel Nursery School	✓	Cambridge Street, Blackburn, BB1 1ES	01254 291250
Longshaw Nursery School	✓	Crosby Road, Blackburn, BB2 3NF	01254 699832
Turncroft Nursery School	✓	Highfield Road, Darwen, BB3 2DN	01254 701534

Nursery classes at community/voluntary controlled schools

Name	30 hrs	Address	Tel No
Audley Infant School		Queen's Park Road, Blackburn, BB1 1SE	01254 52065
Brookhouse Primary School	✓	Troy Street, Blackburn, BB1 6NY	01254 666050
Cedars Primary School		St James' Road, Blackburn, BB1 8HQ	01254 261609
Griffin Park Primary School	✓	Cavendish Place, Blackburn, BB2 2PN	01254 57724
Hoddlesden St Paul's Pre-School	✓	St Pauls C Of E Primary School, Baynes Street, Hoddlesden, Darwen, BB3 3NH	01254 701940
Intack Primary School		Whitebirk Road, Blackburn, BB1 3HY	01254 52815
Meadowhead Infant and Nursery School		Shorrocks Lane, Blackburn, BB2 4TT	01254 202600
Roe Lee Park Primary School	✓	Emerald Avenue, Blackburn, BB1 9RP	01254 56297
Shadsworth Infant School	✓	Rothsay Road, Blackburn, BB1 2EL	01254 698002

✓ = Provider Offers 30 Hours Free Early Education

Nursery classes at community/voluntary controlled schools

Name	30 hrs	Address	Tel No
St Michael With St John CE Primary School		Swallow Drive, Blackburn, BB1 6LE	01254 665190
St Thomas CE Primary School		Newton Street, Blackburn, BB1 1NE	01254 54706

Nursery classes at voluntary aided schools

Name	30 hrs	Address	Tel No
St Alban's RC Primary School	✓	Trinity Street, Blackburn, BB1 5BN	01254 57582
St Anne's RC Primary School	✓	Feilden Street, Blackburn, BB2 1LQ	01254 580462
St Antony's RC Primary School		Shadsworth Road, Blackburn, BB1 2HP	01254 54686
St James Blackburn CE Primary School	✓	Earl Street, Blackburn, BB1 8EG	01254 698335
St Peter's RC Primary School	✓	Watson Street, Blackburn, BB2 2RH	01254 691745

Nursery classes at academies

Name	30 hrs	Address	Tel No
Darwen St James CE Primary School and Nursery Academy	✓	St James Crescent, Darwen, BB3 0EY	01254 703260

✓ = Provider Offers 30 Hours Free Early Education

Children's centres

Name	30 hrs	Address	Tel No
Audley Children's Centre	✓	Pringle Street, Blackburn, BB1 1SF	01254 507750
Darwen Children's Centre	✓	Lord Street, Darwen, BB3 0HD	01254 778900
Higher Croft Children's Centre	✓	Fishmoor Drive, Blackburn, BB2 3UY	01254 267920
Little Harwood Children's Centre	✓	Robinson Street, Blackburn, BB1 5PE	01254 506910
Livesey Children's and All Age Centre	✓	Andrew Close, Blackburn, BB2 4NU	01254 507950
Shadsworth Children's Centre	✓	Shadsworth Road, Blackburn, BB1 2HR	01254 680733



✓ = Provider Offers 30 Hours Free Early Education

Childminders – Darwen and Rural

Darwen East, Darwen South, Darwen West, West Pennine

Name	30 hrs	Tel No
Christine and Damian Davies	✓	07874 849897
Connie Eddleston	✓	07875 624343
Gemma Knowles	✓	07511 697673
Karen Wright	✓	07527 712045
Kathryn Bamber	✓	01254 702218
Sarah Dodd	✓	01254 761112
Sharon Whittaker	✓	07411 225575
Susan McClelland	✓	07446 044934
Vikki Gonnella	✓	07535 934131

Childminders - East

Audley, Queen's Park, Blackburn Central, Blackburn South East, Blackburn South & Lower Darwen

Name	30 hrs	Tel No
Deborah Curran	✓	07712 600678
Hakeema Hussein	✓	07905 064075
Rosemary Nolan	✓	07807 527267

✓ = Provider Offers 30 Hours Free Early Education

Childminders - East

Audley, Queen's Park, Blackburn Central, Blackburn South East, Blackburn South & Lower Darwen

Name	30 hrs	Tel No
Sadie's Munchkins Childcare	✓	01254 489059

Childminders - North

Bastwell & Daisyfield, Little Harwood, Roe Lee, Shear brow & Corporation Park,

Name	30 hrs	Tel No
Hamida Javed Patel	✓	07715608239
Khatija Chopdat	✓	01254 260905
Michele Bradley	✓	01254 240896
Sandra Hamilton	✓	01254 729805 07849 946413
Yasmin Ughratdar	✓	01254 668224 07868 358073

Childminders - West Billinge & Beardwood, Blackburn South & Lower Darwen, Ewood, Livesey with Pleasington, Mill Hill & Moorgate, Wensley Fold

Name	30 hrs	Tel No
Amanda O'Mahoney	✓	07735 036564
Ann Gallagher	✓	07812 489218
Caroline George	✓	07492 752872
Debbie Brindle	✓	07870 524596
Debbie Miller	✓	07887 615591
Diane Reilly	✓	07817 688998
Helen Rennie	✓	07929 943654
Jacqueline Greaves	✓	07505 491376
Karen Ivinson	✓	07789 465613
Kerry Hazell	✓	07747 713484
Lynne Walmsley	✓	07561 422428
Pamela Townsend	✓	07919 533988
Roshni Clarke	✓	07814 810812
Sarah Louise Lowe	✓	07769 685293
Sarah Moir	✓	07443 493615
Stacey Hayhurst	✓	07720 770499

✓ = Provider Offers 30 Hours Free Early Education

Childminders - West Billinge & Beardwood, Blackburn South & Lower Darwen, Ewood, Livesey with Pleasington, Mill Hill & Moorgate, Wensley Fold

Name	30 hrs	Tel No
Vanessa Jayne Leyland	✓	07977 349188

Details listed in this section are correct at the time of being published (September 2021).

Admission to primary or infant school in 2022

Children in Blackburn with Darwen typically start school the September after their fourth birthday. This means that if your child was born between September 1, 2017 and August 31, 2018 he/she can start school full time from September 2022.

Everyone requiring admission for their child to a primary or infant school should apply online at:

www.blackburn.gov.uk/admissions

For further information or support, contact the pupil support and admissions team on **01254 666605**.

Tell us what you think

Our aim is to provide you with an excellent customer service experience. To help us achieve this, it is essential that we are a listening Council and we encourage you to provide us with your feedback.

*You can do this by telephoning the corporate complaints team on **01254 585367** or emailing us at feedback@blackburn.gov.uk.*



Families Information Service

Children's Services
Blackburn with Darwen Borough Council

Email: fis@blackburn.gov.uk

Tel: (01254) 667877

www.facebook.com/BwDFIS