



The West Wing
The Keep
Walcourt Road
Kempston
Bedford
MK42 8 SJ

01234 327955
Fax: 01234 347718

Keep Guard Keep Safe Keep Playing

Committed to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children.

keepguardnursery@aol.com
keepguarddaynursery.co.uk

12th January 2016.

Dear Parents

Changes to the Process for Parents applying for a Funded Two Year Old Place

Bedford Borough Council have introduced a new way for families to apply for two year old funding for their child.

Parents who may qualify under the financial criteria* should now check online to see if they are eligible to access the funding by going to

www.bedford.gov.uk/2yearfunding

Financial Criteria:*

The funding is available the term after their child turns 2 and if the parents are in receipt of one of the following:

- *Income support*
- *Income based Job seekers Allowance*
- *Income related employment and support allowance*
- *Support under part VI of the Immigration and Asylum Act 1999*
- *The guaranteed element of the state pension credit*
- *Child tax credit and have an annual income that does not exceed £16,190*
- *Working Tax Credit (including those in receipt during the four week period immediately after their employment ceases, or after they start to work fewer than 16 hours per week) with a household income of less than £16,190 as assessed by HMRC.*

If you are eligible, the Online Eligibility Checker (OEC) will give you an application reference number which will remain active for six weeks. You must then bring this reference number to Keep Guard.

We as providers will need to check this reference number to confirm eligibility on the OEC by going to the website above and using the [childcare provider](#) link on that page.

We will need to enter the Reference Number, Surname of Child and Date of Birth.

Applying by Application Form

In the following circumstances it will remain necessary to complete an application form which can be downloaded from www.bedford.gov.uk/2yearfunding



For children who:

- Are Looked After by the local authority (LAC)
- Have left care through a special guardianship or an adoption or residence order
- Have a current statement of education needs or an education, health and care plan
- Live in a family in receipt of the Disability Living Allowance
- Live in a family who are currently working with social care.

The online eligibility checker is available with immediate effect and all parents should be encouraged to apply in this way where applicable.

Yours sincerely

Esther Thomas
Setting Manager

