

Free-of-charge 20-hour early childhood education trial for 5-year-old children as of 1 August 2019

Five-year-old children born in 2014 will be provided with free-of-charge early childhood education in Turku as part of a trial programme running from 1 August 2019 to 31 July 2019. Children born in 2014 who are already attending early childhood education or for whom an application for early childhood education has already been submitted will be automatically transferred to free-of-charge early childhood education covering 20 weekly hours. The possible need of a child to participate in a service more extensive than the free-of-charge portion will be discussed separately with the child's guardians. More extensive services are subject to an early childhood education client fee based on average weekly hours, as decided by the City of Turku Education Committee ([3.4.2019 § 49](#)). Families who are not yet early childhood education clients can apply for free-of-charge early childhood education for 5-year-olds and, if needed, for more extensive paid services through [eServices](#).

The free-of-charge 20-hour early childhood education will be organised at day care centres and family day cares as of 1 August 2019 so that it is provided for 4 hours a day from 8:30 to 12:30 or from 9:00 to 13:00 in compliance with the early childhood education plan.

Any early childhood education provided in addition to the free-of-charge service is subject to a client fee as follows:

- 35% of the full-time fee determined for the family when the service need is up to 40 hours per calendar month, meaning an average of up to 10 hours per week.
- 50% of the full-time fee determined for the family, when the service need is up to 80 hours per month or up to 20 hours per week on average.
- 65% of the full-time fee determined for the family, when the service need is up to 110 hours per month or up to 27.5 hours per week on average.
- 85% of the full-time fee determined for the family, when the service need is up to 140 hours per month or up to 35 hours per week on average.

Families plan the early childhood education care times they need in [Päikky](#).

Best regards,
Early Childhood Education