

30 HOURS FUNDED CHILDCARE INFORMATION

All children aged 3 or 4 years old are eligible for the universal 15 hours a week of funded early education. Children are eligible from the term after their 3rd birthday.

From September 2017 the government is extending this offer to 30 hours a week for **working parents earning the equivalent of the National Living wage for 16 hours a week.**

About the Extended Funded Entitlement

The new entitlement is an extra 1,140 hours of early education for children whose parents are working

The additional hours will be available to children in families where:

- both parents are working (or the sole parent is working in a lone parent family) and
- each parent earns, on average, a weekly minimum equivalent to 16 hours at national minimum wage (NMW) or national living wage (NLW), and less than £100,000 per year.
- it is a one parent household and the working parent meets the income rules.

Working will include employed and self-employed persons.

Parents on zero contract hours who meet the criteria are included in the entitlement criteria.

There are some exceptions from two parent rules and children will also be entitled if:

- both parents are employed but one or both parents is temporarily away from the workplace on parental, maternity or paternity leave
- both parents are employed but one or both parents is temporarily away from the workplace on adoption leave
- both parents are employed but one or both parents is temporarily away from the workplace on statutory sick pay.
- one parent is employed and one parent has substantial caring responsibilities based on specific benefits received for caring; or
- one parent is employed and one parent is disabled or incapacitated based on receipt of specific benefits.

It is the **responsibility of the parent** to claim for the extended 15 hours. Parents will need to apply for **the extended** 15 hours offer via www.gov.uk, the term their child's birthday falls in. They will receive a code which they will need to take to their chosen childcare provider. If parents do not bring in their code, they will not be able to claim the extended 15 hours until the next term. Parents can still claim the universal 15 hours.

Children can only receive a funded place from the start of the term after their birthday. Funding periods start on 1 January, 1 April and 1 September each year.

HMRC cannot check your eligibility for the extended entitlement yet. Based on the criteria listed above, you can give the provider an indication of whether you are likely to be eligible when applying for a place.

However you can sign up and register your interest for the extended 15 hours and Tax free childcare at www.tax.service.gov.uk/childcare-schemes-interest/welcome and you will receive an alert as to when you can apply.

The three and four year olds whose parents do not meet the criteria will continue to be entitled to the universal offer of 570 hours per annum or 15 hours over 38 weeks.