



Information on 30 hours free childcare

All 3 and 4-year-olds in England are eligible for 15 hours free childcare a week, or 570 hours a year of free early education. If their parents are living and working in England, 3 and 4-year-olds may be entitled to 30 hours free childcare. This is an extra 570 hours of free childcare a year, so 1140 hours in total. 30 hours free childcare has been available from September 2017.

The eligibility criteria are the same as those for Tax-Free Childcare, except you can continue to get these types of support at the same time as 30 hours free childcare:

- tax credits
- Universal Credit
- childcare vouchers or salary sacrifice schemes
- childcare grants and bursaries

When you apply, you will be confirming that you need childcare so that you and your partner, if you have one, can work. If your child is already in a full-time reception class in a state funded school, you will not be eligible for 30 hours free childcare.

Parents can check their eligibility for 30 hours childcare and/or other financial support to help with the costs of childcare by going to the childcare calculator:-

www.gov.uk/childcare-calculator

If you are eligible for 30 hours childcare please go to:-

<https://childcare-support.tax.service.gov.uk/par/app/extendedentitlement>

- Parents can apply 16 weeks before their child's third birthday.
- The validity start date shown on the code issued by HMRC will be the date the code was issued, not the date the child can start accessing the 30 hours free childcare.
- Every three months, parents will be asked to reconfirm that they are still eligible.

In order to access the 30 hours childcare, an eligibility code must be issued before the end of the funding period to enable a start in the following funding period. If a code is not issued by HMRC before the deadline, the child will have to wait until the following funding period (term) before they can take up the 30 hour entitlement.

Child turns 3 between:	A code must be issued by HMRC before:	If the parent wants to start free childcare from:
1 April - 31 August	31 August	1 September
1 September - 31 December	31 December	1 January
1 January - 31 March	31 March	1 April

If you have any questions, we will do our best to answer them for you.