

30 hours free childcare –the Extended Entitlement

What is 30 hours free childcare for 3 and 4 year olds?

Universal Entitlement

All 3 and 4 year olds are entitled to have up to 15 hours a week of free early education childcare over 38 weeks of the year. This is known as the **universal entitlement** and the claim for this begins the term after the child's third birthday.

30 hours Extended Entitlement.

The Government has added an additional 15 hours funding per week for eligible 3 and 4 year olds. Eligibility for the additional hours will be determined by HMRC.

- This equals 570 universal entitlement hours + 570 additional hours = 1140 hours over the year.
- This 15 additional hours per week (570 hours a year) will be called the **Extended Entitlement**

Is my child eligible?

You will be eligible for the Early Years **extended entitlement** if your child is aged 3 or 4 years old and is receiving the universal entitlement of 15 hours with an Ofsted registered childcare provider.

And your household is where:

- All parents (whether two-parent family or lone parent) are working and earning the equivalent of 16 hours a week at the National Minimum or Living Wage (includes income received from tax credits or Universal Credit)
- Neither parent's income exceeds £100,000 **and/or:**
- One/ both parents is temporarily away from the workplace on parental, maternity or paternity leave

- One/ both parents is temporarily away from the workplace on adoption leave
- One/ both parents is temporarily away from the workplace on Statutory sick pay
- One parent is employed and the other parent has substantial caring responsibilities based on specific benefits
- One parent is employed and the other parent has a disability or is incapacitated based on specific benefits;
- Parents on zero-hours contracts will be eligible, as are those who are registered as self-employed

If your child is already in a full-time reception class in a state funded school, you **would not be** eligible for the 3 and 4 year old Early Years extended entitlement.

Parents that are not currently eligible may become eligible by

- Increasing your hours of employment or
 - Getting into employment.
- Visit your jobcentre and or children centre for further advice

How can I apply for the extended entitlement?

Eligibility for the additional funded hours will be determined by HMRC. An online form developed by HMRC can be completed at home or at any children centre.

If you are eligible you will be given an eligibility code to take to your childcare provider.

You will need to reconfirm your eligibility every **three months online.**

Where will the extended entitlement be used?

Any registered childcare Ofsted provider can offer the extended entitlement.

Not all childcare providers may offer the extended entitlement and you will have to ask your provider if they do so and if they have places available.



Lambeth

Frequently Asked Questions

How does the provider check eligibility for the extended entitlement (additional 15 hours a week)?

The provider will ask the parent for their eligibility code which they received from the HMRC online system. This will be entered into a local authority system to check its validity. A check will occur every three months.

What if my child does not want all the extended entitlement (additional 15 hours a week)?

Parents can use as many hours as they desire they do not have to use all the additional 15 hours.

What if my child attends more than one provider?

Parents can choose up to two providers.

How flexible is the extended entitlement (additional 15 hours a week)?

The extended entitlement can be used in the same way as the universal entitlement and can be used flexibly over the year. It can be delivered

Over 38 weeks of the year, over **more than 38** weeks of the year; outside of school terms; or at weekends.

It is up to the provider to choose what type of delivery they want to offer.

Can a parent fall out of eligibility for the extended entitlement (additional 15 hours a week)?

If the parent/s no longer meets the eligibility criteria your child will not immediately lose their extended entitlement. There will be a **grace period** which will allow you to be able to look for and get employment again. If your circumstances change and you regain employment and you fulfil the eligibility criteria you can re-apply with HMRC.

Your child will still be entitled to the universal entitlement.

I am a foster carer can I claim the extended entitlement of 15 additional hours?

A foster carer can only claim the extended entitlement for her own three and four year olds. She cannot claim for the children she is fostering.

Information for Parents

3 & 4 year olds 30 hours Free Childcare

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