

# Early Years Entitlement

## Parent Information Factsheet 2017-2018

### 30 Hour Funding for 3 and 4 year olds

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#### **Can I have 30 hours funding for my 3 or 4 year old?**

The 30 hours entitlement is only for 3 & 4 year olds in eligible families where parent/s are working. For full eligibility details see Appendix A

#### **How do I know if my child is eligible for 30 hours?**

You must confirm your eligibility via an HMRC online checker:

[www.childcarechoices.gov.uk](http://www.childcarechoices.gov.uk)

If eligible you will be given a code you should give to your provider/s. Eligibility will need to be rechecked at 3 monthly intervals – reminders for rechecking will be issued automatically.

#### **Does my provider have to offer the 30 hours?**

No, every provider can choose to offer the full 30 hours, the universal 15 hours or somewhere in between.

#### **Can they spread the 30 hours in term time only or all year?**

As for the 15 hours, providers can offer the 30 hours in term time only or spread over the year, but this is optional and you should check with your chosen provider/s. Please note that as with the 15 hours, the 30 hour offer cannot be compacted into any less than 38 weeks.

#### **How can I split the 30 hours with more one provider?**

You can split your hours over more than one provider and choose how you want to split. This could be split between providers who do and those who do not offer 30 hours e.g. you could take 10 hours with one provider and 20 hours with another provider. You must state on forms at both providers that you are claiming at another provider and state how you want to split the hours.

#### **Once a child is eligible, when does the 30 hours start?**

To get funding anytime during a term, the 30 hour code to confirm eligibility MUST be obtained before the start of that term. Where a child is confirmed as eligible for 30 hours after the start of term or part way through a term, the funding will start the following term.

#### **Does my funding have to start at the beginning of term?**

As long as you have a 30 hour code before the start of the term, your funding can start anytime after the start of that term, at the discretion of the provider if not the start of term. However, your provider could choose not to start the funding until the following term so parents should try and check/confirm this with a provider before the start of term.

## Can I backdate my funding if I am eligible?

The funding cannot be backdated before the date you have been issued with a 30 hour eligibility code.

### Appendix A

The most up to date information states that eligibility for the entitlement will include households where:

- both parents are working or one parent is working in lone parent families. This will be defined as earning the equivalent of 16 hours per week on national minimum wage and can include self-employment, but earning less than £100,000 per year
- both parents are employed but one or both of them are temporarily away from the workplace on parental, maternity, paternity or adoption leave.
- both parents are employed but one or both of them are 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.
- one parent is employed and one parent is disabled or incapacitated based on specific benefits.

**Note:** A 'parent' means a person who has parental responsibility for the child or care of the child. In cases where a parent has remarried or is living with a partner, the step-parent or partner must also meet the earnings threshold. Foster carers are eligible for the extended entitlement if they meet the criteria set out above for their own children. Foster carers are not eligible for the extended entitlement for the children that they foster.