

Childcare support expansion offer

From April 2024:
15 hours childcare – Age 2

(✓ already rolled out and continuing)

- For **eligible working families in England**
- Each parent earning **at least the equivalent of 16 hours/week at national minimum wage** but **under £100,000** adjusted net income/year
- With a **2-year-old child** (turning 2 on or before March 31st)
- **15 hours of childcare** or early education for **38 weeks**
- A total of **570 hours per year**, that you can use flexibly with one or more childcare providers

From September 2024:
15 hours childcare -
Ages 9 - 23 months

- For **eligible working families in England**
- Each parent earning **at least the equivalent of 16 hours/week at national minimum wage** but **under £100,000** adjusted net income/year
- With a **child between 9 and 23 months old**
- **15 hours of childcare** or early education for **38 weeks**
- A total of **570 hours per year**, that you can use flexibly with one or more childcare providers

From September 2025:
30 hours childcare –
Ages 9 - 23 months

- For **eligible working families in England**
- Each parent earning **at least the equivalent of 16 hours/week at national minimum wage** but **under £100,000** adjusted net income/year
- With a **child between 9 and 23 months old**
- **30 hours of childcare** or early education for **38 weeks**
- A total of **1,140 hours per year**, that you can use flexibly with one or more childcare providers

The government is also working to deliver its ambition for all parents of primary school aged children, who need it, to be able to access childcare in their local area before and after school, between 8am and 6pm, which is known as '**wraparound care**'.

Parents are expected to see an expansion in the availability of wraparound care from September 2024, with every parent who needs it able to access term-time wraparound childcare by September 2026

Existing childcare support packages - 1/2

The eligibility criteria of the different forms of government childcare support packages that parents can access are as follows:

Tax-Free Childcare

- For **working families**, including the self-employed, **in the UK**
- Earning **under £100k** and **at least £183** per week (equal to 16 hours at the National Minimum or Living Wage) each
- Who **aren't** receiving Tax Credits, Universal Credit or childcare vouchers
- With children aged 0-11 (or 0-16 if disabled)
- For every £8 they pay into an online account, the government will add an extra £2, **up to £2,000 per child per year (or up to £4,000 per child if disabled)**

Can be accessed through your registered providers and childminders who have activated their Tax-Free Childcare accounts.

Universal Credit Childcare

- For working families claiming Universal Credit, **in England, Scotland, and Wales**. Northern Ireland has separate arrangements. Eligibility criteria apply
- **Both parents working** – unless one of the allowable exceptions is met
- With **children usually under 17 (including disabled)**
- Up to 85% of eligible childcare costs can be reclaimed
- Upfront support is available to fund your first month's payment. Ask your work coach for more information
- Tax-Free Childcare is not available if also claiming Working Tax Credit, Child Tax Credit, Universal Credit or childcare vouchers

Can be accessed through registered providers or childminders.

Existing childcare support packages - 2/2

15 hours childcare – Age 2 receiving additional government support

- For families in **England**, receiving some forms of additional government support. Visit [GOV.UK](https://www.gov.uk) for further information.
- With **2-year-old children**
- **15 hours of childcare** or early education for **38 weeks**
- A total of **570 hours per year**, that they can use flexibly with one or more childcare provider
- **If you are a childcare provider, speak to your local authority if you are interested in delivering the entitlements.**

15 hours childcare - Ages 3 & 4

- **For all families in England** with **3 and 4-year-old children**
- **15 hours of childcare** or early education for **38 weeks**
- A total of **570 hours per year**, that they can use flexibly with one or more childcare provider
- **If you are a childcare provider, speak to your local authority if you are interested in delivering the entitlements.**

30 hours childcare – Ages 3 & 4

- For **working families in England** with **3 and 4-year-old children**
- Each parent earning **at least the equivalent of 16 hours/week at national minimum wage** but **under £100,000** adjusted net income/year
- **30 hours of childcare** or early education for **38 weeks**
- A total of **1,140 hours per year**, that they can use flexibly with one or more childcare provider
- **If you are a childcare provider, speak to your local authority if you are interested in delivering the entitlements.**

Parents might be eligible to use more than one childcare schemes together.
Find out more from the [Childcare Choices website](#).