

30 hours **free** childcare



Birmingham
City Council

Eligibility for 30 hours **free** childcare for three and four year olds of **working** parents

A child is entitled to 30 hours childcare the term after their third birthday until compulsory school age and the child's parent(s) meet the eligibility criteria set out below.

- the parent of the child (and their partner where applicable) should also be in qualifying paid work. The definition of qualifying paid work is each parent or the single parent in a lone parent household will need to expect to earn the equivalent of 16 hours at the national living wage or their national minimum wage rate over the forthcoming quarter. This applies whether you are in paid employment, self-employed or on zero hours contract.
- where one or both parents are in receipt of benefits in connection with sickness or parenting, they are treated as though they are in paid work;
- where one parent (in a couple household) is in receipt or could be entitled to be in receipt of specific benefits related to caring, incapacity for work or limited capability for work that they are treated as though they are in paid work;
- where a parent is in a 'start-up period' (i.e. they are newly self-employed) they do not need to demonstrate that they meet the income criteria for 12 months in order to qualify for the extended entitlement;
- if either or both parents' income exceeds £100,000 they will not be eligible for the extended entitlement.

The relevant dates in relation to the age criterion are the same as for the three-year-olds eligible for 15 hours of free provision.

Eligibility Birth Dates A child born between the below dates will be eligible to access a three and four year old free childcare place from:

- 1 January to 31 March – Start – Summer term – April
- 1 April to 31 August – Start – Autumn term – September
- 1 September to 31 December – Start – Spring term – January



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