



Guide to applying for Nursery 30-hour funding

Since September 2017, the government are now funding 30 hours' childcare for children who are 3 (for the academic year after their third birthday).

Only certain parents will be eligible for this funding:

1. Working families (where both parents work, or a single parent who works)

- So if you are single, and earn at least £131 per week (16 hours per week at National Minimum Wage) **you are ELIGIBLE**
- If you are single and aged 21-24, and earn at least £123.20 per week, **you are ELIGIBLE**
- If you live with a partner and you both work and earn at least a minimum of £131 per week each, then you **will be ELIGIBLE**
- If you don't work, or live with a partner where one of you doesn't work, then you will **NOT BE ELIGIBLE**

2. Maternity of Paternity

- If you or a partner are on maternity or paternity leave you **may be ELIGIBLE**

3. Disability of carers allowance

- If you are unable to work because you are disabled or have caring responsibilities – you **may be ELIGIBLE**

If you are eligible, or may be eligible, you need to apply for the funding online.

Go to www.childcarechoices.gov.uk

Scroll down to the '30 hours' free childcare' section and click on the purple 'apply now for September start' button (below on the left).

This will then direct you to the government gateway website where if you haven't already, you need to create a childcare account (below on the right).

<https://www.gov.uk/apply-30-hours-free-childcare>

Note: If you have already got a government gateway account, for example if you have other children or have accessed funding for 2 year olds, it will be the same account you need to log on to apply for the 3-year-old funding.

30 hours free childcare

Age **3&4**

- For **working families in England**
- With **3 and 4-year-old children**
- **30 hours of free 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 provider
- Some providers will allow you to 'stretch' the hours over 52 weeks, using fewer hours per week

[Is it for me?](#)

[Childcare Calculator](#)

Get an **estimate** of how much help you can get with 30 hours free childcare and other offers

[Apply now for a September start](#)

Part of [Get 30 hours free childcare: step by step](#)

Apply for 30 hours free childcare

Use this service to apply for a code to get 30 hours free childcare. You'll need to set up a childcare account.

You'll need your details (and your partner's, if you have one), including your:

- National Insurance number
- Unique Taxpayer Reference (UTR), if you're self-employed

If you pay for childcare and want to use Tax-Free Childcare to get help with costs, you can also apply using this service.

It usually takes 20 minutes to apply. You may find out if you're eligible straight away, but it can take up to 7 days.

[Start now](#)

Part of [Get 30 hours free childcare: step by step](#)

- 1 **Check you're eligible**
[Show](#)
- 2 **Check if you'll be better off**
[Show](#)
- 3 **Apply for 30 hours free childcare**
[How](#)

There's one application for 30 hours free childcare and Tax-Free Childcare. As part of your application, you will find out if you can get both.

[Apply online](#)

Once you have applied – if you are eligible it will give you an 11-digit funding code – **this is really important!**

Filling in the funding Form

In your nursery packs you would have received a funding form. We need this completed in order to claim ANY funding for your child and as such, your child will be UNABLE to start nursery in September until this is completed correctly and returned to school.

The key details that are mandatory to complete are all the sections highlighted with GREY:

On the front:

1st section – Child's name, gender, Date of Birth, address and nationality

2nd section – name of provider (our school name)

3rd section – at the bottom of the first side, this is where you enter your 11-digit code

On the back:

4th section – if your child receives DLA, please tick yes and sign next to it

5th section – Please fill in both parent's name and NI number as a minimum. To access the 30 hour funding we need parents NI number to cross-check the 11-digit code so the system needs both bits of information in order to allow us the 30-hour funding. If you think you are entitled to Free School Meals, you also need to provide your date of birth. For a single parent, they only need to fill this section out for themselves.

6th section – Please make sure you SIGN the bottom of the form.

Renewing the Code

Your 30-hour code will need renewing every 3 months. The code **MUST BE IN DATE** by 31st August 2021 in order for us to claim the funding for the Autumn Term. Any codes that are due to be renewed by this date, and are not, will lose the school funding for the Autumn Term which is obviously a significant financial loss to school.

You are able to renew your code 4 weeks before it is due to expire so over the summer holidays, please can you check the expiry date of your code and ensure that it is a date after 1st September 2021. Once back at school we can help send you reminder texts when your code is due to be renewed but we are closed over the summer and are unable to do this ready for September.

If you are not eligible?

If you can evidence that you are not eligible for the 30-hour funding, or that you have applied for it and are not eligible, then we are still committing to offering your child a 30-hour place.

We typically get a lot of forms back where there is no code and no evidence that parents are not eligible. Evidence might be that you are in receipt of Income Support and FSM and therefore not working/eligible for the funding. If you have applied for the funding and have an email, or screenshot that you are ineligible, please forward that to the school office as evidence that you have applied for the 30-hour funding. If we receive this, we should still be able to offer your child a 30-hour place. If you need any help at all with the funding form, please contact the school office.

Waterside Primary – School Office telephone number 01782 234630

Email address – office@watersideprimary.org.uk