

*Kido*

| Early Years Funding  
**Fact Sheet**

| early years, reimagined





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\*Please note that any information shared here as of November 2023 might change and that we do not have control over the changes that the government applies. We appreciate your understanding and patience as we work to provide you with the most accurate and comprehensive information.



# Eligibility and Application Process

# Frequently Asked Questions

**Has the government provided a clear timeline or details on how and when to apply for the new funding for early years education? Are there any changes for the 3 year olds funding?**

From April 2024 eligible working parents of two-year-olds will be able to access funding for 15 hours per week of education and care for 38 weeks of the year.

From September 2024, eligible working parents of children aged nine months up to three-years-old will be able to access funding for 15 hours per week of education and care for 38 weeks of the year.

From September 2025, eligible working parents of children aged nine months up to three-years-old will be able to access funding for 30 hours per week of education and care for 38 weeks of the year.



Age  
**3-4**  
Years

Age  
**2**  
Years

Age  
**9-23**  
Months

All Parents

**15 Hours** **15 Hours** **15 Hours** **15 Hours**

Now Apr 2024 Sep 2024 Sep 2025

Working Families

**30 Hours** **30 Hours** **30 Hours** **30 Hours**

Now Apr 2024 Sep 2024 Sep 2025

Families Receiving some Additional Forms Of Government Support

**15 Hours** **15 Hours** **15 Hours** **15 Hours**

Now Apr 2024 Sep 2024 Sep 2025

Working Families

**15 Hours** **15 Hours** **30 Hours**

Apr 2024 Sep 2024 Sep 2025

Working Families

**15 Hours** **30 Hours**

Sep 2024 Sep 2025

*\*38 weeks a year. Eligibility criteria apply.*

\*It is important to note that there will be no changes to the funding for 3-year-olds. For a detailed overview of these changes and additional information, you can visit [childcarechoices.gov.uk](http://childcarechoices.gov.uk).

Are the 15 hours of free childcare universal for all families, or is there a wage cap or other eligibility criteria? Does it consider parental income or employment status?

To be eligible, each parent or carer must:  
Earn more than the equivalent of 16 hours at the national living wage or minimum wage per week and earn less than £100,000 per year.

The process for parents claiming the entitlements will be the same as under the current system, with eligibility checks processed through HMRC. Parents will be able to check what childcare support they are entitled to via the Childcare Choices website. With this link you can add your personal criteria and check the options that you are eligible for.

<https://www.childcarechoices.gov.uk/>

**FIND THE RIGHT OFFER FOR YOU**

Enter your details to help find out how you can save money on your childcare. The details you enter into this eligibility checker will never be stored. See more in our [personal information charter](#).

You are living in:  
England

You are:  
I earn on average less than £167 a week

Do you live with a partner?  
Yes No

My partner is:  
earning on average less than £60 a week

My children:  
Entering your children's information will make the results more relevant.

Child's first name: Eve  
Month & year of birth: March 2020  
Does your child have any disabilities? Yes No

**15 HOURS CHILDCARE**

For families in England, receiving some additional forms of government support

May be available for:  
Eve Summer term: 1st April - 31st August 2021 (after Eve's 2nd birthday)

Children aged 2 years

- 15 hours of childcare or early education for 38 weeks (up to 9.66 hours per week), that you can use flexibly with one or more providers.
- Some providers will allow you to 'top up' the hours over 38 weeks, using flexi hours per week.

Find out more about other schemes in [Scotland](#), [Wales](#) / [Cornwall](#), and [Northern Ireland](#).

**TAX CREDITS FOR CHILDCARE**

The credits are closed to new applications for the majority of people from 1 February 2021. But if you need to be working more than 16 hours a week (24 hours a week in the Northern Ireland region), if you're earning less than half a week but are under 16, or you're an apprentice, you may still be eligible.

Show me anyway

The eligibility criteria for the current 30-hour offer, applicable to three and four year olds, is expected to remain the same for the upcoming 2-year-old funding.

Families have to meet certain income requirements to be eligible for the current 30-hour offer for three- and four-year-olds, and the new yet-to-be-introduced offers for children aged nine months and over.

This eligibility criteria applies to each parent or carer in dual-parent households and the lone parent or carer in lone-parent households.

**To be eligible, each parent or carer must:**

Earn more than the equivalent of 16 hours at the national living wage or minimum wage per week. This means that over the next three months, you expect to earn at least £1,976 - the National Living Wage if you are 23 or older.

There is no requirement to work a certain number of hours per week – it is all about how much you

earn. This means that, for example, if you only work 10 hours a week but earn £20 per hour, you will meet the minimum earning threshold. Apprentices are also eligible as long as they earn the equivalent to 16 hours at the apprentice minimum wage.

AND the second criterion is to earn less than £100,000 per year. Again this applies to each parent and carer in a dual-parent household. This means that if one parent earned £101,000 and the other earned £20,000, a family would **not** be eligible, but if both parents earned £99,000, the family would be eligible.

These criteria apply if you are **self-employed** or on a **zero-hours contract** and expect to meet the earning criteria on average over the three months after you have applied for your funded entitlement. **HMRC** will look at data such as your previous earnings to consider whether you are likely to meet the criteria and may contact you for further information if they are unsure.

**If you are starting up your own business, you will**

not be expected to meet the minimum earning criteria in your first year of trading.

If you are not working but you expect to take up paid work within 31 days, you can still apply for 30 hours, as long as you expect to meet the income criteria over the coming three months.

If you live with a partner, you both must meet the above criteria even if one of you is not the child's parent – for example, if you have remarried or have started living with a new partner. If you are separated/divorced from your child's parent, the eligibility rules will only apply to the parent that the child normally lives with (and their new partner if they are part of the same household).

If you are on shared parental, maternity, paternity or adoption leave, you can still apply for the 30 hours for the 3 year olds and the 15 hours for the 2 year old funding. If you're on adoption leave, you must return to work within 31 days of the date you first apply for the funding.

**Will the funded hours apply year-round, or are they limited to certain months or terms of the year? In the case of a child being absent due to sickness or a family holiday, do the funded hours get banked or are they lost?**

Government funding only covers 38 weeks of the year. Since we are open 51 weeks a year we stretch the funding across the year, this equates up to 11.2 free hours a week for the 15 hours and up to 22.4 free hours for the 30 hours funding.

Funded hours are limited to 3 hours per half day and 6 hours per full day. The total owed is equivalent to the unfunded hours only - funded hours are entirely free. Missed funded hours due to sickness or holidays cannot be transferred or banked.





## **Is Tax Free Childcare and discounts affected by the funding?**

You can use Tax-Free Childcare or discounts whilst claiming your 15 or 30 hours of childcare support.

## **Regarding the funding, will parents need to apply directly, or will Kido handle the application process?**

Parents will be required to complete single application on the [Gov.uk website](https://www.gov.uk)

You will be given an 11-digit code that you will need to provide to us together with your NIN.

We will then use the government's eligibility checking system to check the code is valid.

We will send to complete your Parent Declaration Form via Funding Loop the term before your funding begins.

You will need to reconfirm your eligibility every three months.

## **Tax-free childcare (TFC)**

\*You can get up to £500 every 3 months (up to £2,000 a year) for each of your children to help with the costs of childcare. This goes up to £1,000 every 3 months if a child is disabled (up to £4,000 a year).

\*If you get TFC, you'll set up an online childcare account for your child. For every £8 you pay into this account, the government will pay in £2 to use to pay your provider.

\*You can use your TFC account to pay your childcare provider.

\*We require your reference number to allocate your payment.

\*We cannot refund payment made via TFC to your bank account.

Should you need more information please click below.

<https://www.gov.uk/apply-for-tax-free-childcare>





Timing and  
**Specific Cases**

# Frequently Asked Questions

If a child turns 2 in May, will they qualify for funding immediately, or does it start from the school term after they turn 2?

Each eligible family will be entitled to funding starting from the term after the child reaches a specific age. For example, if a child turns 2 by the last day of March, they will be eligible for funding from the 1st April. For eligible children turning 2 from the 1st of April, they will become eligible for funding from the 1st of September. Please note that we have a specific gap to apply for funding and it has to be the term before you are eligible for funding. The fees will remain the same until you are eligible for the funding.

When your child turns 3	When they can get 30 hours from	Recommended time to apply
1 September to 31 December	Term starting on or after 1 January	15 October to 30 November
1 January to 31 March	Term starting on or after 1 April	15 January to 28 February
1 April to 31 August	Term starting on or after 1 September	15 June to 31 July

\*The above chart is for 3 years olds same applies for the children that turn 2 years with the 15 hours funding.

**What is the procedure for increasing my child's attendance at Kido once the funding begins?**

We are seeing a large demand for April 2024 due to funding and want to ensure our existing families have the attendance pattern they require, should you wish to increase your child's attendance please contact your nursery team to do so in advance.

**Does the government's new funding affect ad hoc nursery day requests, and will they still be possible within the free hours allowance?**

Funding does not apply to ad-hoc sessions.



The information provided here has been collected from the following sources:

[Childcare Choices](#)

[Early years funding – extension of the entitlements Government consultation](#)

[Early Years Alliance](#)

<https://www.gov.uk/apply-for-tax-free-childcare>

[Help for Households](#)

For any further questions you can contact us at [marketing@kido.school](mailto:marketing@kido.school)



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[kidoschools.com](http://kidoschools.com)