

# Childcare support offers

## Childcare

**Choices**

Help for  
Households

# Childcare support expansion offer

**From April 2024:  
15 hours childcare –  
Age 2**

- For **eligible working families in England**
- Each parent earning **under £100k per year** and **at least £167** per week (equal to 16 hours at the National Minimum or Living Wage)
- With a **2-year-old child**
- **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**
- Earning **under £100k** and **at least £167** per week (equal to 16 hours at the National Minimum or Living Wage)
- 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**
- Earning **under £100k** and **at least £167** per week (equal to 16 hours at the National Minimum or Living Wage)
- 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

Find out more from the **Childcare Choices website**.

# 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 £167** 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

**See the Childcare Choices website for more information.**

# 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

## 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

## 30 hours childcare – Ages 3 & 4

- For **working families in England** with **3 and 4-year-old children**
- **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

Parents might be eligible to use more than one childcare schemes together.  
Find out more from the **Childcare Choices website**.