



DCYP Bites – Policy on a Page

Free Early Years Childcare Entitlement for 3 and 4 year olds (including 30 hours' free childcare)

The Offer	
UK	Overseas
15 hours for children aged 3 and 4; 30 hours for working parents	In MOD schools/settings, 15 and 30 hours' free childcare can be accessed free of charge. Parents to apply via relevant nursery setting.
Scotland –16 hours' free childcare, increasing to 30 hours for working parents by August 2020	
Wales – 30' hours free early education/ childcare for working parents for 48 weeks of the year.	
Northern Ireland –12.5 hours per week of free preschool education.	

Issues applying online? Email HMRC:
childcareservice.localgov@hmrc.gov.uk.

Useful Links

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

What Parents need to do:

- Register early with CEAS if posted abroad with children
- If moving within the UK, check out what the local offer is prior to moving to avoid missing out on free hours
- Engage with nurseries early

Eligibility

Every parent with children aged 3 and 4 years old is eligible for the basic free childcare entitlement from the term following their child's 3rd birthday.

30 hours' free childcare

The additional entitlement, where offered, is only available to working parents who can answer "yes" to the following:

- Do both you and your partner work 16 hours per week or more (NMW/NLW)?
- Is your individual annual employment income below £100,000.00?
- Are you a single parent?
- Are you on paid maternity leave?
- Are you a registered carer?

In overseas locations, MOD will mirror entitlements which parents would have access to in England to ensure they are not disadvantaged. Please read [30 hours free childcare DIN](#) for full details.