

30 Hours Free Childcare

**Don't delay,
apply now at:**
www.childcarechoices.gov.uk

Remember you can only start to
take these extra 15 hours the
term **AFTER** you have
successfully applied

Tax Free Childcare

Working families can also apply for Tax Free
Childcare, which can further help with the
cost of childcare.

For every £0.80 a parent pays into an account,
the government will contribute £0.20.

To find out more visit:

www.childcarechoices.gov.uk

Do you have
a child who is
3 or 4 years old?

Do you earn at least
the equivalent of
16 hours at national
minimum wage?

For more information please contact
Families Information Service Hub (FISH):

 **(01482) 396469**  **fish@eastriding.gov.uk**

 **fish.eastriding.gov.uk**



What is 30 hours free childcare?

If you are a parent of a child aged three or four you can receive 570 hours of government funded childcare each year, called the universal entitlement. This is 15 hours per week (if you take it in term time only, but can be stretched over the holidays if you wish).

From September 2017, if you are currently employed, you could receive an extra 570 hours per child each year, called the extended entitlement. This means you could receive a total of 1,140 hours of free childcare per year for each child aged three or four years. This is 30 hours per week (term time only).

Can I receive 30 hours free childcare?

To receive 30 hours free childcare you and your partner must **BOTH** be in work, (if a lone parent you must be in work) and expect to earn the equivalent of 16 hours at national minimum living wage* in the next three months.

The table below shows the expected earnings:

Age	Per week	Per year
25+	£120.00	Around £6,000
21 to 24	£112.80	Around £5,800



*National Minimum Wage rates correct as of 1 April 2017

You can also receive the 30 hours free childcare if you or your partner (where relevant) meet the following criteria:

- Are on maternity leave, paternity leave, shared parental leave, adoption leave or statutory sick leave
- Are in a 'start up period', such as when newly self-employed, and do not need to demonstrate that you meet the criteria for 12 months
- If you are a non-EEA national, the parent must have a legal right to public funds
- Where one parent meets the income criteria and the other is unable to work because they are disabled, have caring responsibilities or have been assessed as having limited capability to work.

How do I apply for the 30 hours free childcare?

You **MUST** apply the term **BEFORE** you would like to start taking this additional 15 hours, as you can only claim your extended entitlement from the start of the term after you have successfully applied.

To apply please visit: www.childcarechoices.gov.uk

Who does not qualify for the 30 hours free childcare?

You cannot receive the additional 15 hours of free childcare if you or your partner (where relevant):

- Has an income of £100,000 or more
- Is a non-EEA national, subject to immigration control with no legal right to public funds. This means benefits cannot be claimed.



What happens after I apply?

After you have applied your application will be reviewed and if approved, you will receive a voucher code for each of your children.

Take this to your childcare provider, who needs to validate it **BEFORE** you can start receiving the additional 15 hours childcare. You will also need to give your childcare provider your National Insurance number and proof of your child's date of birth and give your written consent to enable a check to be made.

You must access your account at the Childcare Choices website every three months and either update your information, or confirm that your information has not changed. If you do not do this you will become ineligible for the extended entitlement.

What happens if I stop meeting the eligibility criteria?

You will still be entitled to the universal 15 hours free childcare, however if you stop meeting the eligibility criteria for the additional 15 hours you will be sent an email from HMRC giving the reason. You must find out from your childcare provider when your 'grace period' ends and if you are using more than one provider, you should then decide which provider you would like to continue offering the universal 15 hours.

During this period you will continue to receive the full 30 hours free childcare to give you time to find employment so you can meet the conditions again.

Do childcare providers have to offer 30 hours free childcare?

Childcare providers are not obliged to offer the additional hours but you should discuss how many hours your childcare provider can offer you. This can be anything up to 30 hours.

For a comprehensive list of all Ofsted registered childcare providers please contact FISH.