

30 Hours Childcare Extended Entitlement

Eligibility Criteria

Your eligibility depends on:

- if you are working
- your income (and your partner's income, if you have one)
- your child's age and circumstances
- your immigration status

You can get 30 hours' free childcare at the same time as claiming Universal Credit, tax credits, childcare vouchers or Tax-Free Childcare.

If you are working

You can usually get 30 hours' free childcare if you (and your partner, if you have one) are:

- in work
- on sick leave or annual leave
- on shared parental, maternity, paternity or adoption leave

If you're on adoption leave for a child aged 3 to 4 years old, you must return to work within 31 days of the date you first apply for 30 hours' free childcare for that child.

If your working pattern has changed because of coronavirus (COVID-19)

You may still be eligible for 30 hours' free childcare if you're temporarily working less and either:

- you're on furlough through the Coronavirus Job Retention Scheme
- you're claiming a Self-Employment Income Support Scheme grant

If you are not currently working

You may still be eligible if your partner is working, and you get Incapacity Benefit, Severe Disablement Allowance, Carer's Allowance or contribution-based Employment and Support Allowance.

You can apply if you're starting or re-starting work within the next 31 days.

TRLP is committed to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of the children and expects all staff to share this commitment.

The Redstart Learning Partnership, known as The Redstart Primary School, is an exempt charity.

The Redstart Learning Partnership is a company limited by guarantee.

Registered in England at: The Redstart Primary School, Redstart Road, Chard, Somerset. TA20 1SD.

Company No: 07649832

Your income

You'll need to expect to earn a certain amount over the next 3 months. This is at least the National Minimum Wage or Living Wage for 16 hours a week on average.

For example, over the next 3 months you expect to earn at least £1,853.28 - the National Living Wage for people over 23.

If you have a partner, they'll need to expect to earn at least this much too.

If you or your partner are temporarily earning less than this amount because of coronavirus, you may still be eligible. You must be furloughed through the Coronavirus Job Retention Scheme or claiming a Self-Employment Income Support Scheme grant to qualify.

If you're self-employed and do not expect to make enough profit in the next 3 months, you can use an average of how much you expect to make over the current tax year.

This earnings limit does not apply if you're self-employed and started your business less than 12 months ago.

If you or your partner have an expected 'adjusted net income' over £100,000 in the current tax year you will not be eligible. This includes any bonuses you expect to get.

Your adjusted net income is your total taxable income before any personal allowances and minus things like Gift Aid.

Your child

You will not be eligible if your child does not usually live with you.

If you foster your child, you cannot use the online application to get 30 hours' free childcare. Speak to your social worker and your local authority if you want to apply.

Your immigration status

To be eligible for 30 hours' free childcare, you (or your partner if you have one) must have a National Insurance number and at least one of the following:

- British or Irish citizenship
- settled or pre-settled status, or you have applied and you're waiting for a decision
- permission to access public funds - your UK residence card will tell you if you cannot do this

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When to apply

You can apply from when your child is 2 years and 36 weeks old.

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

You can apply outside of these recommended dates but you might not receive your code in time. You must have a valid code by the end of the month before a new term starts.

Check with your childcare provider to find out the exact date your 30 hours' free childcare starts.

You have to reconfirm your eligibility every 3 months. If you apply more than 3 months before the term starts, you'll have to reconfirm your eligibility in your account in order to keep your code valid.

If you have a partner

You must include your partner in your application if you are:

- married or in a civil partnership and live together
- not married or in a civil partnership, but living together as though you are

Their employment and income will not affect your eligibility if they:

- are or will be absent from your household for more than 6 months
- are a prisoner

You and your partner cannot both have accounts for the same child

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If you are separated

You and your ex-partner need to decide who should apply if you are jointly responsible for your child.

If you cannot decide, both of you must apply separately and HMRC will decide who gets a childcare account.

More information about the 30 hours' childcare and how to apply is available online at;

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

<https://www.somerset.gov.uk/education-and-families/paying-for-childcare/30-hours-extended-entitlement/>

*Please Note - If you are applying for 30 hours and someone else already claims Tax-Free Childcare for that child, your application will be unsuccessful.

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