



Government Funding

15 Hours Funding Policy

Funding towards the cost of School fees for 2, 3 & 4 year olds is provided by the Local Authority. How we apply this funding is outlined below. We have a very limited number of fully funded places at the school and demand is high for these places.

If you are interested in a fully funded place you may need to register on our waiting list. Subject to eligibility, funding is awarded for 38 weeks of the year (the length of school terms). Please note that the School year is actually 39 weeks long but it includes 5 inset (training) days when schools are closed. Therefore, schools are considered open for 38 weeks of the year with 13 weeks of holidays.

If you believe you will be eligible for either a 2 year or 3 year funded place, please inform the school secretary in writing, once your place is secure, who will add you onto the wait list.

For 2 year old's, a funding a letter will need to be provided to prove eligibility and for 30 hours fully funded you will need to provide us with a code.

2 year old fully funded – wait list dependant

The 2 year old funding is only accessible to parents that fall under certain criteria, to find out if this is something that you can access then please visit the government website:
<https://www.gov.uk/help-with-childcare-costs/free-childcare-and-education-for-2-to-4-year-olds>.

A child will be eligible for 2-year-old funding the term after their 2nd birthday. The maximum weekly allowance at our setting is 15 hours.

Our application of 2-year-old funding is outlined below:

AM sessions = 3 hours maximum 9.00am-12.00pm

PM sessions = 3 hours maximum 1.00pm-4.00pm

Full day = 6 hours maximum

Any of the above combinations can be used so long as the 15 hours are not exceeded.

2 year old funding alongside normal attendance, chargeable sessions:

Mixed charge sessions (sessions with 2-year funding applied alongside normal attendance) are charged as follows:

8.00am-9.00am= early morning session charge

9.00am-12.00pm= AM funded session (if applicable)



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12.00pm-1.00pm= Lunch charge
 1.00pm-4.00pm= PM funded session (if applicable)
 4.00pm- 6.00pm= Late afternoon session charge

Please note that while the 15 hours are free, the nursery charges additional charges for food, activities and consumables. For more information about our additional charges please contact the nursery principal or accountant for further clarification.

For fully funded places, please be aware that we have limited availability and high demand, please contact the management team for information regarding these places prior to registering. We accept all places for a full/half day booking with funding applied (as long as availability permits).

3 & 4 year old funding fully funded – wait list dependant

All children are eligible for the 15 hours, 3-year-old funding at the start of the term after his/her 3rd birthday. The three 'terms' start in January, April and September. The maximum weekly allowance is 15 hours.

Our application of 3-year-old funding is outlined below:

AM sessions = 3 hours maximum 9.00am-12.00pm
 PM sessions = 3 hours maximum 1.00pm-4.00pm
 Full day = 6 hours maximum
 Any of the above combinations can be used so long as the 15 hours are not exceeded.

Please note that the School does not offer any fully funded 15 hour places.

3&4 year old funding alongside normal attendance, chargeable sessions:

Mixed charge sessions (sessions with 15 hours funding applied alongside normal attendance) are charged as follows:

8.00am-9.00am= early morning session charge
 9.00am-12.00pm= AM funded session (if applicable)
 12.00pm-1.00pm= Lunch charge
 1.00pm-4.00pm= PM funded session (if applicable)
 4.00pm- 6.00pm= Late afternoon session charge

Please note that while the 15 hours are free, the nursery charges additional charges for food, activities and consumables. For more information about our additional charges please contact the nursery principal or accountant for further clarification.

Allocation of funding

We take the number of government funded hours per month that your child is eligible for according to the sessions booked. These are then deducted from your invoice leaving you with an outstanding amount to pay for any non-funded hours/services (if applicable). Please note that all inset days take place during holidays so no funded sessions are affected. If you move settings



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during the term once your funding has already been applied for, we may not be able to transfer the funding across so you may be liable for the full fees until the next funding headcount. If you have any doubts or questions about this, please ask the office for more information.

Funding is allocated by the government over only 38 weeks of the year, leaving 13 weeks when no funding allocated towards your account. This means the charges during the 13 Out of Term weeks will be at the full rate. If your child's place is fully funded they will not be able to attend the School during the Out of Term periods shown below.

Any parents with questions regarding the Early Years funding can speak to the nursery principal or accountant for clarification.

Out of Term Time Attendance

Autumn Half Term

Monday 23 October - Friday 27 October 2023 = 1 Week

Christmas Holiday

Friday 15 December - Friday 5 January 2024 = 2 Weeks

Spring Half Term

Monday 12 February - Friday 16 February 2024 = 1 Week

Easter Holiday

Friday 29 March - Friday 12 April 2024 = 2 Weeks

Summer Half Term

Monday 27 May - Friday 31 May 2024 = 1 Week

Summer Holiday

Thursday 25 July - Friday 30 August 2024 = 6 Weeks

NB: we do offer a limited number of 30 hours childcare places, for more information please see the document below to check eligibility and then speak to a member of the management team.

30 Hours Fully Funded Places – wait list dependant.

The School will be offering a limited number of fully funded 30 hours places. To be added to the wait list please email the school secretary once your child's place is secure or you become eligible. Please note that the School does not offer mixed charge sessions for the 30 hours fully funded places (sessions with 30 hours funding applied alongside normal attendance). The 30 hours break down is shown below:

9.00am – 3.00pm= fully funded session

Please be advised that a fully funded 30 hours place at the School does not allow your child to attend during the holidays.



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Barnet Council

Information on 30 hours' free childcare for 3 & 4 year olds for working parents

All three and four year olds living in England are entitled to 570 hours of free early education and childcare a year. This is usually offered as 15 hours a week for up to 38 weeks a year and is a universal entitlement. It can be claimed through an Ofsted registered childcare provider the term after your child's third birthday.

The number of hours has now increased the hours from 15 to 30 a week for children of working families who meet their eligibility criteria. This means that eligible children will be able to receive up to 1140 hours of free childcare a year.

Below is a list of our most frequently asked questions about the extended entitlement. You can find additional information about the government's proposal to extend the free hours in their Childcare Bill: policy statement.

Who will be eligible to receive the extended entitlement?

- The extra free hours will be made available to families where:
- both parents are working (or the sole parent is working in a lone parent family)
- each parent earns on average a weekly minimum amount equivalent to working 16 hours at National Minimum Wage (NMW) or National Living Wage (NLW)
- neither parent has an income of more than £100,000 per year
- It is also proposed that the additional hours should be made available to families in the following circumstances:
- both parents are employed but one or both parents is temporarily away from the workplace on parental, maternity or paternity leave
- both parents are employed but one or both parents is temporarily away from the workplace on adoption leave
- both parents are employed but one or both parents is temporarily away from the workplace on statutory sick pay
- one parent is employed and one parent has substantial caring responsibilities based on specific benefits received for caring, or
- one parent is employed and one parent is disabled or incapacitated based on receipt of specific benefits



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Do I need to be working 16 hours a week to qualify?

The eligibility checker has been designed to accommodate parents with fluctuating incomes, such as seasonal workers, those on zero hours and the self-employed. So you do not need to actually be working 16 hours every week but your earnings over the next 3 months must be equivalent to the amount you would earn if you worked 16 hours a week at either the National Minimum Wage (NMW) or National Living Wage (NLW).

How can I confirm my eligibility?

Parents must check through the online eligibility checker. Please follow this link for more information: https://www.gov.uk/30-hours-free-childcare?utm_source=childcarechoices&utm_medium=microsite

If the checker shows you are eligible you will be given an eligibility code to take to your childcare provider. You will need to reconfirm your eligibility every three months to continue claiming the extra hours. You can find details of how you will be able to apply at:

https://www.gov.uk/childcare-calculator?utm_source=childcarechoices&utm_medium=microsite

What happens if I no longer meet the eligibility criteria?

- If your family, no longer meets the criteria you will stop being eligible to claim the extra hours. However, there will be a grace period until the start of the next funded period to give you the opportunity to regain employment. If your circumstances change during the grace period you can reapply again and continue to receive the extra hours.
- You will still be able to receive the universal 15 hours of free childcare for all 3 and 4 year olds even if you are no longer eligible for the extended entitlement.

If I am eligible when can my child start to receive the extended entitlement?

- All children aged 3 or 4 (if they are eligible for the extended free entitlement) can receive the 30 hours from the start of the term following their third birthday.
- Please note : **All children aged 3 or 4** continue to be eligible for the universal 15 hour per week entitlement, even if they don't qualify for the extended 30 hour entitlement.
- Children **first** become eligible for the free entitlement from the start of the term following their third birthday. The table below sets out an example of the terms when a



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child who turns 3 after 1 April 2017 becomes eligible for the free hours:

- Children can receive the free hours until they either start in a reception class at a local authority maintained school or reach compulsory school age (which is the school term after their fifth birthday).

When can my child use the free entitlement hours?

- It is proposed that the free hours will be delivered as flexibly as possible and the free hours can be taken up any day of the week. Childcare providers will offer the free hours at different times/days so please speak to your childcare provider for details. However, you won't be able to:
 - have any time before 6am or after 8pm
 - claim more than 10 hours a day
 - claim more than 30 hours a week
 - claim more than 1140 hours per year
 - use the funding at more than two childcare providers in one day.

Can I use the free entitlement with more than one childcare provider?

Yes, you can choose to take the free hours with up to three childcare providers. However, you must not exceed 30 free hours a week or use it at more than two childcare providers a day.

Tax-Free Childcare

Tax-Free Childcare, is a UK-wide scheme to help working parents pay for childcare.

What is Tax-Free Childcare?

Parents are able to open an online childcare account, which they will use to pay for their childcare directly.

For every £8 a parent pays in, the government will pay in an extra £2. Parents can receive up to £2,000 per child, per year, towards their childcare costs, or £4,000 for disabled children – separate from funded entitlements. The offer will be available for children up to the age of 12, or 17 for children who are disabled.

To qualify, both parents will have to be in work, and each expecting to earn at least £115 a week – and not more than £100,000 each year.

Tax-Free Childcare can be used to pay for:

- Pre schools
- Registered childminders
- Day nurseries
- School based care (that is paid for, such as after-school clubs)



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Parents can't claim Tax-Free Childcare at the same time as claiming tax credits, Universal Credit or childcare vouchers. Childcare providers can receive payments from both Tax-Free Childcare and childcare vouchers.

How does Tax-Free Childcare work for providers?

Childcare providers can sign up now for Tax-Free Childcare.

Letters were sent to registered childcare providers throughout September and October, inviting them to sign up and get ready for the launch of Tax-Free Childcare. They must do this in order to receive payments from parents through the scheme.

To sign up, childcare providers should visit www.childcare.tax.service.gov.uk and will need:

- The unique code (user ID) included in their invitation letter. The user ID was on the letter inviting providers to sign up for Tax-Free Childcare. If they've lost the letter, they will need to be sent a new one. Please contact the childcare service helpline on 0300 123 4097.
- The bank account details for the account they wish to receive payments into.
- Their Unique Taxpayer Reference (UTR) number – or their National Insurance number, if they don't have a UTR.

To sign up, childcare providers must first be registered or approved, with a regulating body (eg OFSTED).

Parents can search for childcare providers who have signed up using an online tool. Payments will be made directly from a parent's online account and will automatically include the government's contribution, arriving in one simple transaction for providers.

Please visit the following site for the top things parents should know.

<http://www.childcare.tax.service.gov.uk/>.

If you require any support or have any questions on Tax-Free Childcare please contact HMRC at tax-free.childcaremailbox@hmrc.gsi.gov.uk.

Complaints

If you wish to make a complaint you may do so by writing directly to the School Principal who will acknowledge your concern within five working days of receiving your letter. You may also contact Barnet Council Funding team directly, please call 020 8359 2000 for further details.



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