

## Funded Entitlement for 2, 3 & 4 Year Olds -Practitioner Information

**Some two year olds** are entitled to 15 hours of Funded Entitlement (FE) per week over 38 weeks per year. This is known as **TWO YEAR OLD FUNDING**.

- They may be eligible if the family are in receipt of an eligible benefit, see link for the eligibility criteria <https://www.yor-ok.org.uk/families/Childcare/eligibility.htm>.
- Other eligibility includes:
  - Children who are looked after by the Local Authority or have left care through an adoption order, special guardianship order or child arrangements order;
  - Children who have a current statement of special education needs (SEN), an Education, health and care plan (EHCP) or are in receipt of Disability Living Allowance (DLA);
  - Children of Zambrano Carers;
  - Children of families with no recourse to public funds with a right to remain in the UK on grounds of private and family life under Article 8 of the European Convention on Human Rights;
  - Children of a subset of failed asylum seekers (supported under section 4 of the Immigration and Asylum Act 1999 – ‘the 1999 Act’).
- Parents/carers will need to complete an online application <https://www.yor-ok.org.uk/families/Childcare/application-and-eligibility-form.htm> or paper application form or they can contact York’s FIS Service on 01904 554444 for support in completing the application.

**All 3 and 4 year olds** are entitled to **UNIVERSAL 15 HOURS FUNDED ENTITLEMENT** each week, over 38 weeks per year.

- They can claim less than the 15 hours if they do not wish to access the full FE
- A maximum of 10 hours can be claimed in any one day
- The child can attend a maximum of two sites in a single day

Eligible Date of Birth Ranges for Two Year Old Funding and Universal funded entitlement

<b>A child who is 2 or 3 in:</b>	<b>Can have their funded place from:</b>
January, February or March	The start of the summer term
April, May, June, July or August	The start of the autumn term
September, October, November or December	The start of the spring term

**Some 3 and 4 year olds** are entitled to an additional 15 hours of Funded Entitlement. This is known as **30 HOURS FUNDED ENTITLEMENT**.

- To find out if their child is eligible for the 30 Hours the parent must go online and apply to the government website: <https://www.childcarechoices.gov.uk/> . If they are eligible they will receive an eligibility code which **MUST** be taken to their chosen provider and entered onto the Parental Declaration Form before their child takes up a 30 hours place.
- The family may receive an eligibility code before their child is 3 but they can only start claiming their 30hours place in the term following their 3rd birthday or the term following the date when the eligibility code was issued (**whichever is the later**).

Child turns 3 between:	Eligibility code issued in month:	Child will be funded from the:		
		Summer term	Autumn term	Spring term
April-August	April, May, June, July or August		√	
April-August	Sept, October, November or December			√
April-August	January, February or March	√		
January-March	April, May, June, July or August		√	
January-March	Sept, October, November or December			√
January – March	January, February or March	√		
Sept-December	April, May, June, July or August		√	
Sept-December	Sept, October, November or December			√
Sept-December	January, February or March	√		

## Criteria for 30 hours funded childcare entitlement

- Both parents are working (or sole parent in a lone parent family) & each parent earns on average:
  - a weekly minimum equivalent to 16 hours at national minimum wage (NMW) for under 25 yr olds or national living wage (NLW) if over 25 yrs old, and
  - less than £100,000 per year
- Both parents/carers are employed but one or both parents/carers is temporarily away from the workplace on parental, maternity, paternity or adoption leave or statutory sick pay, or
- One parent/carer is employed & the other parent/carer has substantial caring responsibilities based on specific benefits received for caring, or
- One parent/carer is employed & one parent/carer is disabled or incapacitated based on receipt of specific benefits

## For families in receipt of carers allowance

For joint applications - carer allowance is only available to a family where at least one working parent meets the qualifying income levels and the other parent is in receipt of a qualifying benefit, including Carers allowance or carer's element of universal credit (it does not matter who they are carer for).

For single applications - the parent must meet income requirements regardless if they are in receipt of qualifying benefits.

## Children in foster care

Can receive 30 hours of childcare if the foster carers meet the eligibility criteria below and it is consistent with the child's care plan. The foster carer should apply for a 30 hours code via their LA and should speak to their supervising social worker to see if they meet the criteria before completing an application form.

- CYC is the Corporate Parent of the child; if the corporate parent is another Local Authority you must contact them for an application form.
- The child is eligible for 3 & 4 year old funding (term after their 3rd birthday), or will be in the next 10 weeks.
- It's in the child's care plan that attending a childcare setting for the additional hours is in their best interest.
- All foster carers in the household are working outside of fostering, or if a couple, at least one carer is working and the other carer is in receipt of a qualifying benefit;
- The foster carers are European Economic Area (EEA) nationals or have a visa allowing them to have access to public funds.
- The foster carers must live in England.
- The foster carers are working, but earning less than £100,000 net per year or;
- Non-foster parents in the household must meet the standard criteria for a 30 hour code:
  - Working and earning the equivalent of 16 hours per week at the minimum wage/national living wage;
  - Earning less than £100,000 per year; and
  - EEA national or have a visa allowing them to have access to public funds.

Further information, including the application form and FAQs can be found at [www.york.org.uk/childcare](http://www.york.org.uk/childcare)

**Additional Funding - Some 3 and 4 year olds** may also be entitled to:

### EARLY YEARS PUPIL PREMIUM (EYPP)

An additional sum of money paid to childcare providers for children of families in receipt of certain benefits including:

- Income Support/income-based Jobseeker's Allowance/income-related Employment and Support Allowance
- Child Tax Credit (provided they're not also entitled to Working Tax Credit and have an annual gross income of no more than £16,190)
- Working Tax Credit run-on, which is paid for 4 weeks after they stop qualifying for Working Tax Credit
- Universal Credit and have an annual net earned income equivalent to and not exceeding £7,400, assessed on up to three of the parent's most recent Universal Credit assessment periods
- The guaranteed element of State Pension Credit
- Support under part VI of the Immigration and Asylum Act 1999

- Child is 'looked after' by a local authority in England or Wales, or
- Child has left care in England or Wales through an adoption, a special guardianship order or a child arrangement order

The funding will be used to enhance the quality of their child's early years' experience by improving the teaching and learning and facilities and resources, with the aim of impacting positively on their child's progress and development.

In order for the LA to check eligibility for EYPP, the personal details of the main benefit holder need to be completed under the EYPP section of the Parent Declaration Form.

## **DISABILITY ACCESS FUND (DAF)**

The aim of the Disability Access Funding (DAF) is to assist providers to make reasonable adjustments to support the equality of access for all children and is paid to the child's early years setting as a fixed annual rate of £615 per eligible child.

- 3 and 4 year old children who are in receipt of child Disability Living Allowance and are receiving Funded Entitlement are eligible for the Disability Access Fund.
- The family will need to complete a Disability Access Fund application form which their childcare provider can obtain from the Local Authority and will be required to provide evidence to the provider that their child is in receipt of Disability Living Allowance

## **SPECIAL EDUCATIONAL NEEDS**

If a child has special educational needs (SEN), their childcare provider may be able to access some additional Early Years Inclusion funding to support the child in their Early Years setting. The childcare provider must complete an application which will be reviewed by an independent LA panel to determine how much funding they will receive to further support the child.

## OTHER FINANCIAL SUPPORT TOWARDS CHILDCARE COSTS

### Tax Free Childcare

Tax-free Childcare is a UK-wide government scheme that pays 20% of childcare costs up to a maximum of £2000 each year (or £4000 if the child is disabled). It's called the Tax-free Childcare Scheme because 20% is the basic rate of income tax. The scheme is open to all parents of children under 12 (or under 17 if disabled). Parents can apply to open a Tax-free Childcare account online at <https://www.gov.uk/sign-in-childcare-account>

To be eligible for the Tax-free Childcare Scheme:

- both parents in a couple, or a single parent must work on an employed or self-employed basis and have an income of at least £125.28 per week.
- Self-employed people will be allowed start-up periods where this income level doesn't have to be met.
- Periods on maternity leave, sick leave, paternity leave, parental leave, adoption leave and shared parental leave will count as being in work.
- If you work but your partner is unable to work because they are disabled or care for a disabled person, you are eligible for the Tax-free Childcare Scheme.

The scheme is not available to parents where either a single parent or either member of a couple earns over £100,000 or if they are receiving support with childcare costs (childcare costs element) through [Tax Credits](#) or [Universal Credit](#).

If a child qualifies to receive Disability Living Allowance their family can gain an additional £2.00 this continues until the young person is aged 17.

### Further Information

For further information about 15 hours or 30 hours childcare, Tax Free Childcare, Tax Credits, Universal Credit for Childcare, Childcare Vouchers and Support during study, go to:

<https://www.childcarechoices.gov.uk/>