



Extended entitlement for 3 and 4 year olds - Update No.4

The Early Implementer trial is now live and we have a wide range of providers across the City of York working in partnership to deliver the extended entitlement to eligible families.

Applying for the extended entitlement

If you think you would be eligible for the extended entitlement and have not yet applied, the online checker can be found at the following link: <http://www.yor-ok.org.uk/families/Childcare/30-hours-parental-declaration.htm>. You will need to click onto this link and return a self –declaration, confirming you meet the national and local eligibility criteria. You will then receive a letter from the LA either confirming that you are eligible for the extended entitlement or requesting that you submit relevant evidence in order for the LA to check your eligibility.

Voucher Codes and Parental Declaration Forms

All eligible families will receive a voucher code which you **must** show to your early year's provider, as evidence that you are eligible for the extended entitlement. If your child is attending more than one provider then you must show your voucher to each provider **and** complete a Parental Declaration Form at each provider to ensure you receive the extended entitlement.

Taking the extended entitlement

You may be able to access the entitlement in the following ways (**subject to availability at your chosen provider**).

1. The Standard Model – entitlement is claimed for 38 weeks per year.

If your provider is open for more than 38 weeks of the year, or your child attends for more than 30 hours per week during term time, you will have to pay for additional hours for the extra weeks that your child attends in the year.

Your provider may average out the additional charges across the year to give you a monthly bill or you may receive a bill for the holiday (non term time) weeks.

2. The flexible model – for providers open more than 38 weeks

If your child attends for at least 380 hours per term (1140 hours per year) your provider may be able to offer you a flexible model which allows you to claim your maximum entitlement allowance. Your providers will pro rata your entitlement across their billing period, so that you receive a fixed bill.

E.g. your child attends at least 1140 hours per year at a provider that bills monthly

1140 free hours / 12 months = 95 free hours per month plus charges for any additional hours

3. Stretched Offer Model – for providers open more than 38 weeks.

This is for families who **only** want to take up their extended entitlement and not pay for additional hours at a provider that is open all year. There are two stretched offer models depending on how many weeks your provider is open across the year:

a. 48 week model e.g. at a childminder

Your child can attend for up to 23.75 hrs per week for 48 weeks per year without incurring charges for additional hours.

b. 51 week model e.g. at a full daycare provider

Your child can attend for up to 22.25 hrs per week for 51 weeks per year without incurring charges for additional hours.

Please note that for all of the above delivery models, your provider may charge for optional extras such as lunches and snacks but these should be agreed prior to taking up a place and should not be a condition of you accessing the extended entitlement.

Our role as an Early Implementer is to explore patterns of take up requested by families alongside the ability of providers to deliver these. We recommend that you discuss flexibility options with your provider as the range of models and their availability vary across the city.

Evaluation of the Early Implementer trial

The Department for Education has commissioned independent research to gather the views of parents/carers who take up the extended entitlement (30 hours of free childcare) to help improve the policy. We would encourage families to agree to being contacted by the independent research team, as your experiences of using the extended entitlement will help influence national roll out of the extended entitlement in September 2017.

Digital Childcare Service Trial

Families who have been confirmed as eligible for the extended entitlement will have received a letter on behalf of HMRC inviting them to test a new online childcare service – which allows parents to apply for Tax-Free Childcare and the extended free entitlement at the same time.

By taking part in this trial you will help test the service before it launches in 2017. It will also give you the opportunity to receive Tax-Free Childcare from as early as November, ahead of it being offered to the wider public next year. You can receive Tax-Free Childcare (for all children under 12, or under 17 if disabled) as well as claiming the extended entitlement.

If you haven't yet registered your interest in participating in the trial and would like to take part, you can still register on the link provided in the letter.

More Information

We have produced a Frequently Asked Questions to help answer any questions you may have regarding the extended entitlement. This is available at the following webpage:
<http://www.yor-ok.org.uk/families/Childcare/30-hours-free-childcare-pilot.htm>.