

Extended (30) Hours – Preschool

The 30 hours extended entitlement is double the universal entitlement of 15 hours which is available for all three and four-year-olds. Working parents can use it as 30 hours per week during term time.

Check you are eligible and apply:

<https://www.cambridgeshire.gov.uk/residents/children-and-families/childcare-and-early-learning/extended-entitlement-30-hours-childcare-for-working-parents/>

The application process above is managed by HMRC. The Childcare Choices website also offers a comparison guide for all the ways you can reduce childcare costs.

Your child must be at least 2 years and 6 months old before you will be able to make an application using the online system.

Once your child turns three, and you have confirmed your eligibility (within the deadline) with HMRC, you can start claiming from the beginning of the term following their birthday, i.e. 1 April, 1 September or 1 January.

The deadline for receiving your HMRC Code is the last day of the month, before the new term starts. For example to access extended entitlement from 1 January 2018 the code you receive from HMRC must be dated on, or before, 31 December 2017. If you apply for and are eligible but are not issued with an HMRC Code by 31st December 2017, the extended funding entitlement will be available from the following term 1 April 2018.

If you are eligible you'll get an 11 digit eligibility code. You will need to keep this safe, as you will need to provide this to your childcare provider to access your place.

Every three months, you'll need to reconfirm that you're still eligible for the extended entitlement. HMRC will send a reminder four weeks before the deadline. You don't need to update your provider every time you reconfirm, however please notify your provider if you fall out of eligibility.

Last Autumn (2017) was the first term of extended hours and therefore all children applied for and received the hours during the 'grace period' regardless of whether they fell out of eligibility on reconfirmation or not. This arrangement was just applicable to introduce the extended hours in Autumn 2017. For Autumn 2018 if a child becomes ineligible on reconfirmation in July or August they should not take up a place if they are already in their 'grace period'.

If the 'end date' is in July or August, this means that the parent will need to reconfirm the Extended Entitlement code before September. Please be reminded to do this. If you do not reconfirm before September, you will not be able to take up a place until January.

Thank you.