



## **Frequently asked FUNDING questions answered.**

### When will my child receive funding?

Your child will receive 3-4-year-old universal funding the term after they have turned 3 years old. So, if your child is 3 years old in February, they will receive funding after Easter in the summer term. ALL 3-4-year-old children will receive this funding.

### How much universal funding will I get?

You will get a max of 570 hours a year.

This equals a max of 15 hours a week if attending term time only. For example – For Spring term a child receives a Max. of 165 hours. Term time is 11 weeks for Spring term. So, 15 hours x 11 weeks = 165 hours. If your child comes annually (not term time only) this is 13 weeks, 13 weeks x 15 hours = 195 hours. This is over the Max amount. So, you will end up having to pay for 30 hours.

### If my child is on an annual contract and gets universal funding, can I spread the funding? –

If you are on an annual contract – (You will get a max of 570 hours a year). This can be spread throughout the year.

We are open 51 weeks and you get 2 weeks free for family holidays, so, 570 hours divided by 49 weeks will give you a total of 11.5 hours a week for every week of the year. If your child does more than 11.5 hours, such as 15 hours you will be required to pay 3.5 hours a week for 49 weeks. If your child does less than 11.5 hours a week you will not need to pay any extra hours, you will be covered with the funding.

### Do I need to do anything to apply for 3-4-year-old universal (15 hours) funding?

You do not need to do anything until we ask you to sign a form and complete a funding contract.

### Can I get funding for my child before they are 3 years old?

Some children are eligible for 2-year-old funding if you are getting some benefits, such as income support or if your child has special educational needs. Please visit <https://www.childcarechoices.gov.uk> to see if you are eligible.

### Can I get 30 hours of funding?

Some 3-4-year-old children are eligible for extended funding. This is usually for children whose parents are in work. Your eligibility depends on: If you are working, how much you earn, your child's circumstances and your nationality. Please visit <https://www.childcarechoices.gov.uk> to see if you are eligible.

### If I am eligible for 30 hours funding how do I apply?

Go to <https://www.gov.uk/apply-30-hours-free-childcare> to apply for extended funding. Once you receive a code please notify the nursery to let us know the code. You will be asked to complete a form for the nursery to check your code and apply for your funding. YOU must apply online. The nursery cannot do this for you.

### If I am eligible for 30 hours funding, exactly how many free hours will I get, and can the funding be spread throughout the year?

*(You will get a max of 1140 hours a year).* You will get a max of 30 hours free funding a week if your child is term time only 38 weeks of the year.

If you are on an annual contract – (You will get a max of 1140 hours a year). This can be spread throughout the year. We are open 51 weeks and you get 2 weeks free for family holidays, so, 1140 hours divided by 49 weeks will give you a total of 23.25 hours a week for every week of the year. If your child does more than 23.25 hours, such as 25 hours you will be required to pay 1.75 hours a week for 49 weeks. If your child does less than 23.25 hours a week you will not need to pay any extra hours, you will be covered with the funding.

***The funding period runs from 1<sup>st</sup> September – September (Academic year)***

***Please see the breakdowns below if your child is eligible for funding in Jan or April (Not a whole academic year)***

**If your child becomes eligible for universal funding after Christmas. 15hours a week they will be entitled to 165hours of funding for Spring term and 195hours of funding for Summer term = Total 360hours up until the beginning of the new academic year in September.**

If they are on an annual contract, they will be attending 35weeks from Jan – the beginning of the new academic year in September.

This will give your child 10.25hrs a week of free funding and this will be added to your invoice automatically.

*(Funding can only be claimed in ¼ hour (0.25 hour) blocks).*

**If your child becomes eligible for universal and EXTENDED funding (30hrs) after Christmas. 30 hours a week they will be entitled to 330hours of funding for Spring term and 390hours of funding for the Summer term = Total 720hours up to the beginning of the new academic year in September.**

If they are on an annual contract, they will be attending 35weeks from Jan – the beginning of the new academic year in September.

This will give your child 20.5 hrs a week of free funding and this will be added to your invoice automatically.

*(Funding can only be claimed in ¼ hour (0.25 hour) blocks).*

**If your child becomes eligible for universal funding at Easter (April). 15hours a week they will be entitled to 195hours of funding for Summer term.**

If they are on an annual contract, they will be attending 22weeks from April – the beginning of the new academic year in September.

This will give your child 8.75hrs a week of free funding and this will be added to your invoice automatically.

*(Funding can only be claimed in ¼ hour (0.25 hour) blocks).*

**If your child becomes eligible for universal and EXTENDED funding (30hrs) at Easter (April) 30 hours a week they will be entitled to 390hours of funding for the Summer term = Total 390hours up until the beginning of the new academic year in September.**

If they are on an annual contract, they will be attending 22weeks from April – the beginning of the new academic year in September.

This will give your child 17.5 hrs a week of free funding and this will be added to your invoice automatically.

*(Funding can only be claimed in ¼ hour (0.25 hour) blocks).*

Can funding be used for Ad Hoc (extra hour) sessions?

No, we can only use funding for contracted weekly hours. You will be required to pay in full for Ad Hoc sessions (extra hours).

Can I use my funding at more than one childcare provider?

Yes, you can use your funding at more than one childcare provider, but the combined hours must not exceed the maximum number of hours per year. You need to tell each childcare setting how many hours you intend to claim at each setting.

## **UPDATE –**

**From April 2024 you may be able to get 15hrs free funding a week. A max of 570hrs a year. Which can be spread in the same way set out above for annual contracts. Please visit the following link to see if you are eligible.**

**<https://www.childcarechoices.gov.uk/upcoming-changes-to-childcare-support/>**

**You can apply for a government childcare account by following this link -**

**<https://www.gov.uk/apply-free-childcare-if-youre-working>**

**From September 2024 this funding will extend again to include children from 9months of age. (They will receive funding the term after they turn 9months). So, if they are 9 months before 1<sup>st</sup> Sept they will get funding from September 2024. If they turn 9 months after 1<sup>st</sup> September 2024 and before 31<sup>st</sup> December 2024 they will get funding from January 2025 etc..**

**Please follow this link to see if you are eligible. This funding is for working parents.**

**<https://www.childcarechoices.gov.uk/upcoming-changes-to-childcare-support/>**

**IF YOU HAVE ANY QUESTIONS ABOUT FUNDING PLEASE MESSAGE VICTORIA ON THE FAMILY APP.**