



Information about the free 30 hour entitlement:

The new entitlement is an extension of the current universal entitlement and provides an additional 15 hours of free childcare for children that are eligible.

- The additional 15 hours will be available to families where both parents are working (or the sole parent is working in a lone parent family) and each parent earns, on average, a weekly minimum equivalent to 16 hours at national minimum wage (NMW) or national living wage (NLW),
- Working will include employed and self-employed persons.
- Parents do not necessarily need to actually work 16 hours a week, but rather their earnings must reflect at least 16 hours of work at NMW or NLW, which is £107 a week at the current NMW rate. This includes those parents on zero contract hours who meet the criteria.
- There will be an income cap so that, when at least one parent in a household has an income of £100,000 or more, that family will not be eligible to take up the extra free hours.
- Families where one parent does not work (or neither parent works) will usually not be eligible for these additional hours. However, the government intends to make provision to support families where one parent is in receipt of benefits relating to caring responsibilities or a disability and the other parent is working. Full details will be set out in regulations, but the government intends that the additional entitlement should be available 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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