



Nursery Entitlement

3- and 4-year-olds

All children of this age are entitled to 15 hours' free childcare per week.

3 and 4 year-olds whose parents are working (and making at least the minimum National Insurance contributions) may be eligible for 30 hours of free early education. However, this eligibility does not extend to those who are subject to immigration control (including those with Limited Leave to Remain and undocumented migrants). However, if a parent has a partner who is entitled to apply and who has recourse to public funds then they may make the application instead.

2-year-olds

2-year-olds in England may qualify for 15 hours' free childcare per week if they are in a household which receives one or more qualifying benefits, such as Universal Credit. A full list of qualifying criteria can be found [here](#).

2-year-olds in families with no recourse to public funds:

Following a series of legal challenges brought by Matthew Gold & Co. Ltd. Solicitors and Central England Law Centre, eligibility was extended to 2-year-olds living in households with a net income from employment of no more than £15,400, and whose parents/carers meet one of criteria below:

1. **Limited leave to remain** granted on Article 8 family or private life grounds either within the rules (Appendix FM or 276E(2)) or outside the rules but were subject to a NRPF condition; or
2. In receipt of **support under section 17 of the Children Act 1989**, regardless of immigration status.

Children whose families are in receipt of **section 4 asylum support** will automatically qualify, regardless of income.

When can an eligible child enrol?

Any eligible child can enrol in the school term after their 2nd birthday. They must apply to their local authority.