

Free Funded Childcare Government Expansion of Funded Childcare Support

The Government has expanded funded childcare support to help working families with the cost of early years education.

Eligible **working parents** can now access funded childcare for children **from the term after they turn 9 months old until they start school**. This entitlement provides **up to 30 hours of funded childcare per week for 38 weeks of the year**, subject to eligibility.

Mehria Wonderland Nursery is a **term-time-only nursery** and offers **38 weeks of funded childcare**,

This expansion builds on the existing support already available, including:

15 hours of funded childcare for eligible 2-year-olds from families receiving certain benefits.

Universal 15 hours of funded childcare for all 3- and 4-year-olds, which can be combined with the working parents entitlement to make up 30 hours per week.

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Funding Start Dates

Funded childcare begins the term after your child turns 9 months old. Terms start in:

- **January**
- **April**
- **September**

Eligibility Criteria

Eligibility depends on:

1. Employment

- Both parents (or one parent in single-parent households) must be employed or self-employed.

2. Income

- Each parent must earn at least £183 a week (equal to 16 hours at National Minimum Wage) but no more than £100,000 annually.

3. Child's Age and Circumstances

- Funding applies to children aged 9 months to 4 years, depending on the phase of funding.

4. Immigration Status

- Parents must meet immigration requirements for public funds.

5. Benefits

- Families on certain benefits may also qualify; visit [Gov.uk](https://www.gov.uk) for more details.