

# Early Years and Childcare

Stakeholders briefing sheet no. 6 (August 2019)

## 30 Hours Childcare and Tax-Free Childcare

The deadline for new applications for 30 Hours Childcare and Tax-Free Childcare to start in the autumn term is the **31 August**.

Parents applying for help with childcare funding after this date will not be able to receive this until January 2020.

The Department for Education have updated their 30 hours '[Check you're eligible](#)' page on GOV.UK. This now includes a 'When best to apply' table, based on when a child turns 3.

Parents who are already in receipt of 30 Hours or Tax-Free Childcare must ensure that they reconfirm their eligibility to HMRC when requested to.

To help decide what childcare scheme is best for their circumstances, parents can use the [Childcare Calculator](#).

Childcare  
**Choices**

## Contact info

30 Hours Childcare/ Tax-Free Childcare helpline: Childcare Service Helpline **0300 123 4097**  
[tax-free.childcare@hmrc.gsi.gov.uk](mailto:tax-free.childcare@hmrc.gsi.gov.uk)

## What is the Disability Access Fund?



<https://www.dreamstime.com/handicap-parking-sign-free-stock-photography-image-free-7957607>

The Disability Access Fund (DAF) can be used to support childcare providers in making reasonable adjustments to their settings. DAF is also to help with building capacity, for the benefit of a child or children attending the setting.

3 and 4-year olds will be eligible for the DAF if they meet the following criteria:

- the child is in receipt of child disability living allowance and
- the child accesses the funded entitlement at the Early Years Provider (universal 15 hours)

Four-year olds in primary school reception classes are not eligible for DAF funding.

Children become eligible for free early education at

different points in the year depending on when they turn three.

Childcare providers who have eligible DAF children will be entitled to receive a one-off payment per year.

Children do not have to take up the full 570 hours of early education they are entitled to for receiving the DAF.

However, if a child eligible for DAF is splitting their free entitlement across two or more providers, only one provider will be able to claim the whole amount. Parents are asked to nominate the main provider on their parent declaration form.

## Other types of support with childcare costs

As well as [Childcare Choices](#), information about support with childcare costs can be accessed from the [Services for Young Children website](#).



Hampshire  
County Council

[www.hants.gov.uk](http://www.hants.gov.uk)

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Hungry Little Minds is the new Department for Education campaign that encourages parents and carers to adopt positive activities and behaviours to boost children's communication, language and literacy development.

The three-year campaign, which launched in July, aims to help parents understand that they have a massive impact on their child's learning. Reading, playing and chatting with them are simple things they can do to help them develop, even when they are too young to say much back.

Parents can access tips and activities from [www.hungrylittleminds.campaign.gov.uk](http://www.hungrylittleminds.campaign.gov.uk) and search for activities in their area using a new postcode finder service.



Organisations are encouraged to support the campaign, share content on social media and link to the campaign website from their sites, making it easier for parents to get the latest advice.

## Hot off the press about 2 Year Olds...



Department for Education

### Extending eligibility for a free early education place for disadvantaged two-year olds

Three additional groups of children will be able to benefit from a free early education place from September 2019. These are:

- Children of Zambrano Carers;
- Children of families with no recourse to public funds with a right to remain in the UK on grounds of private/family life under Article 8 of the European Convention on Human Rights;
- Children of a subset of failed asylum seekers (supported under section 4 of the Immigration and

Asylum Act 1999 – 'the 1999 Act').

The children of Zambrano Carers will be entitled if their parents meet similar low-level income requirements to others eligible for the scheme (e.g. £15,400 net earnings threshold for families in receipt of Universal Credit).

Also, children whose families have a right to be in the UK on Article 8 grounds with no recourse to public funds and who meet the same criteria of economic disadvantage.

Eligibility is also being extended to children whose families receive support under section 4 of the 1999 Act because they are temporarily unable to leave the UK and would otherwise be destitute. As such, they satisfy the low-income requirements to be eligible for the entitlement.

Eligible families need to apply for the early years education via the [2 Year Old portal](#).

If you no longer want to receive this briefing, please email: [alice.warr@hants.gov.uk](mailto:alice.warr@hants.gov.uk)

**Next edition to include:** Something F.I.S.H.(Y)! and the SEND Local Offer.