



**Brighton & Hove
City Council**

Changes to 15 and 30 hours free early learning and childcare for 9 month olds to four year olds

This factsheet sets out the information on changes being made in 2024 and 2025, to the [funding which will be available to parents of children aged 9 months to four years old](#).

This information was announced by the government in their [budget](#), March 2023 and will be updated and expanded as we receive more information.

Changes happening now

From June 2023, the amount working parents will be able to claim from Universal Credit to cover childcare costs will rise from £646 a month to £951 for one child, and from £1,108 to £1,630 for two children.

Parents will also be able to receive DWP support to cover their costs upfront, making it easier for them to get a job or increase their hours. Their Universal Credit work coach can provide more information.

Section One – From April 2024

From April 2024, working parents of 2 year olds will be able to access 15 hours childcare.

Section Two – From September 2024

From September 2024, 15 hours childcare for working parents, will be extended to children from the age of 9 months.

Section Three – From September 2025

From September 2025, working parents of all children aged 9 months to 4 years, will be entitled to 30 hours childcare per week.

Section Four

Information about Brighton & Hove Family Hubs and how to get in touch

Section One – From April 2024



The infographic features a photograph of a young girl in a white shirt and blue overalls playing with colorful stacking toys at a table. A woman is partially visible behind her. The Department for Education logo is in the top left corner.

How many free* hours of childcare can you get per week? FOR A CHILD AGED 2 YEARS

NOW	APR 2024	SEPT 2024	SEPT 2025
15 hours	15 hours or 15 hours	15 hours or 15 hours	15 hours or 30 hours

Eligibility: Families with additional needs Working families

*38 weeks a year. Eligibility criteria apply. Providers may ask for charges in addition to the free childcare. Visit childcarechoices.gov.uk for further information.

Don't miss out! - You may be eligible for funding for your 2 year old now

Families of 2 year olds who may currently be eligible for 15 hours childcare, are listed here and can apply now;

[Free early learning for 2 year olds \(brighton-hove.gov.uk\)](http://brighton-hove.gov.uk)

Section Two – From September 2024



The infographic features a photograph of a woman standing behind a young child who is standing on a colorful mat. Another child is sitting on the floor nearby. The Department for Education logo is in the top left corner.

How many free* hours of childcare can you get per week? FOR A CHILD AGED 9-23 MONTHS

SEPT 2024	SEPT 2025
15 hours for working families	30 hours for working families

*38 weeks a year. Eligibility criteria apply. Providers may ask for charges in addition to the free childcare. Visit childcarechoices.gov.uk for further information.

Section Three – From September 2025

The infographic features a photograph of a teacher and two children in a classroom on the left. The right side is a purple graphic with white and yellow text. The title asks 'How many free* hours of childcare can you get per week? FOR A CHILD AGED 3-4 YEARS'. Below this is a table with four columns: NOW, APR 2024, SEPT 2024, and SEPT 2025. Each column shows '15 hours or 30 hours'. A legend indicates 'All parents' in red and 'Working families' in green. A footnote states '*38 weeks a year. Eligibility criteria apply. Providers may ask for charges in addition to the free childcare. Visit childcarechoices.gov.uk for further information.'

Period	Hours
NOW	15 hours or 30 hours
APR 2024	15 hours or 30 hours
SEPT 2024	15 hours or 30 hours
SEPT 2025	15 hours or 30 hours

Eligibility: ■ All parents ■ Working families

*38 weeks a year. Eligibility criteria apply. Providers may ask for charges in addition to the free childcare. Visit childcarechoices.gov.uk for further information.

There is no change to the current funding offer for 3 and 4 years olds

From September 2025, working parents of all children aged nine months and upwards will be entitled to 30 hours free childcare per week, right up to their child starting school.

Working Families - To qualify for the funding:

- Both parents must be working and earning at least the equivalent of 16 hours per week at the national minimum wage, but less than £100,000 per person a year (see exceptions list)
- Single parents must be working and earning at least the equivalent of 16 hours per week at the national minimum wage, but less than £100,000 per year
- Self-employed parents must have earnings over a set period of time that equate to at least 16 hours per week at the national minimum wage but do not exceed £100,000 per year.
- Foster carers may be eligible for 30 hours free early learning for children that they foster, if they meet certain conditions.

Using your funding term time only or year round

Like the existing offer, depending on your provider, these hours can be used over 38 weeks of the year (during school term time), or up to 52 weeks if you use fewer than your total hours per week.

Section Four – Information about Brighton & Hove Family Hubs

Information on the current funding can be found in our factsheets at [Family Service Directory | Useful Information \(familyinfobrighton.org.uk\)](#)

Our range of factsheets at www.brighton-hove.gov.uk also include	
Tax Free Childcare	Information on a government scheme to support working parents with childcare costs.
New to Brighton & Hove	Information on services, activities and local information for families who are new to the city.
Separated Parents	Information, advice and support when relationships break down.

- For enquiries about 15 hours free childcare, call Family Hubs on 01273 293545 or email familyhubs@brighton-hove.gov.uk
- For enquiries about 30 hours free childcare, call the childcare service helpline on 0300 1234 097

The information included in this factsheet was correct to the best of our knowledge at June 2023.
For the most up to date information, please visit www.gov.uk and www.childcarechoices.gov.uk