

Factsheet on 30 hours funded hours

We have put together this factsheet to help parents apply for the 30 hours offering and to choose how they will use it at Croft Corner. Feedback that we have had from parents is that it is complicated to work your way through the system so hopefully this will help!

Q. What age of children does it apply to?

A. Both the 15 hours (universal hours) and the additional 15 hours of extended funding (extended hours) will apply to 3 and 4 year old children, from the term after their third birthday.

Q. How many hours may a child claim?

A. Every child is entitled to claim up to 15 hours per week for 38 weeks of the year.

In addition, a child who meets the criteria may also claim an additional 15 hours (extended hours) making the entitlement up to 30 hours per week for 38 weeks per year, or the equivalent number of hours spread over 51 weeks per year (stretched offer).

Q Is there any paperwork to complete?

Yes, there is a parental agreement, a pattern of attendance form and if you are claiming the 30 hours there is an additional terms and conditions document to sign. We will email these to you 6 weeks before the end of the term.

Q. Can I change my sessions?

For the 15 hours, we need 4 weeks notice.

However, it is important to note that with the 30hours, we have limited flexibility with session changes and these will only be reviewed termly and changed, if possible. Please email us with any request to change.

For all sessions queries please email: info@forestschoollnursery.co.uk

If your code is not provided at least two weeks before the start of term, any hours over the universal entitlement of 15 hours will be charged at our normal rates and you will be invoiced accordingly for the following term's fees.

Q. What are the additional charges for?

The additional charges covers anything outside the remit of the government's early years extended entitlement offer, e.g. all food, snacks, drinks, forest school sessions and these are applied as per our Offer document.

Q. Can I split the hours between yourself and another provider?

The 30 hours Offer at Croft Corner are offered as part of a package. It is therefore not possible for you to use the extended 15 hours with us if you are using the universal 15 hours elsewhere.

You can however use your universal 15 hours with us and it would be up to the other provider to agree to allow you to use the extended 15 hours with them. You will be asked to confirm on the funding forms that you are claiming the universal hours with us.

Q Who is entitled to claim the 30 hours of funding?

A. Families where both parents work for a minimum of 16 hours per week, and each earn less than £100,000 per year.

Where there is a family with one parent, entitlement is based on the parent working for a minimum of 16 hours per week, and earning less than £100,000 per year.

Parents who are self-employed, and parents on zero-hours contracts or working less than 16 hours can still be eligible if they can evidence they are earning the equivalent of 16 hours per week or more at national or living minimum wage or more.

Families where one or neither parent works will not usually be eligible to claim the 30 hours Free Entitlement. You should check the government website for up to date information about eligibility.

Q. What if I am not eligible for the extended hours?

A. You will still be able to claim the 15 hours universal hours for 3 and 4 year olds in the usual way.

Q. How do I apply for the 30 hours?

A. To find out whether you are entitled to the 30 hours funded child care you need to visit the Childcare Choices website <https://www.childcarechoices.gov.uk>

You'll need to provide us with a code, this will need to be via email. We are unable to obtain the code for you. This code will need to be renewed every term and we will need the renewed code two weeks before the start of term, again via email.

Q. What happens when my code expires?

A It's important for you to understand that unless you have this code, your child care hours will not be funded and you will be invoiced and liable for full fees, for the following term. It is solely your responsibility to have the code in good time and give it to us .

Q. What happens if my eligibility changes?

If your eligibility changes (i.e. you are no longer working) the government will give you a grace period, please see their website for further information. This is intended to allow you to get another job. You will need to have another job and applied for a new code before the end of your grace period. It is your responsibility to inform us if your employment circumstances change.

Q. My child has just turned 3 and I have a code, can I claim the 30 hours?

Even if you have a code, you can only start to claim at the start of the term following your child's 3rd birthday

Q. I want to start to claim but I am in the grace period?

You can not claim for the first time if you are in the grace period. You would need to apply again and the code would be valid from the start of the following term.

Clear as Mud? Please speak to us if we can be of any more assistance