

Expanded Entitlement – Eligibility Checking Process - Parents & Carers

Parent applies for expanded entitlement funding using HMRC online system and receives eligibility code

(Apply prior to start of academic term - see pink tables below)



Parent chooses provider that offers expanded entitlement, and has a suitable place available, and presents eligibility code.

Child is offered a place with provider



Parent reconfirms eligibility every three months using HMRC online system (text and email reminders will be sent).

If still eligible, funding continues.

If no longer eligible, grace period begins (see below for details).

Apply Online

beststartinlife.gov.uk



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Grace Periods

Date parent receives ineligible decision on reconfirmation	Grace Period end date
1 January - 10 February	31 March
11 February - 31 March	31 August
1 April - 26 May	31 August
27 May - 31 August	31 December
1 September - 21 October	31 December
22 October - 31 December	31 March

Expanded entitlements for eligible working families, a parent, and any partner earning under £100k p.a. each, and at least £183 each per week

Type of Funding Entitlement	How do parents apply?
3 & 4 year old 30 hours	Best Start in Life – apply or renew code by the end of the month before the new term starts: - Born Sep-Dec, get code by 31/12, claim Spring - Born Jan-Mar, get code by 31/03, claim Summer - Born Apr-Aug, get code by 31/08, claim Autumn
2 year working families 30 hours	

Type of Funding Entitlement	How do parents apply?
9months + 30 hours	Best Start in Life – apply or renew code by the end of the month before the new term starts: N.B. dates below are based on the child's '9 month birthday' - Born Dec - Mar, get code by 31/12, claim Spring - Born Apr - Jun, get code by 31/03, claim Summer - Born Jul - Nov, get code by 31/08, claim Autumn
All funded childcare stops when child starts in reception class (or reaches compulsory school age).	