## **Eligibility Checklist**

You can use this tool to work out if you're eligible for the 30 hours funded childcare. Please tick each box that applies to you. My child will be 3 years old or 4 years old on 1<sup>st</sup> September 2024. I'm in a two parent household where both parents work, or, I'm in a lone parent household and I work (including self-employment or zero-hours contracts). I/We each on average earn at least the equivalent of 16 hours on the minimum wage per week (£183.04 from April 2024). I/We each earn less than £100,000 per year. If you were able to tick each box above, then you are entitled to the 30hours funded childcare. If you were unable to tick box 2, then you will still be eligible if you are able to tick any of the following boxes. I am from a two parent household where one of us works (in line with the minimum average earnings threshold) and one of us is on parental, maternity, paternity, adoption, or sick leave. I am from a lone parent household and I am on parental, maternity, paternity, adoption, or sick leave. I am from a two parent household where one of us works (in line with the minimum average earnings threshold) and one of us is in receipt of benefits relating to caring responsibilities or has a disability.



Charity No. 502610

## Funded childcare for working families 3 & 4 year olds

The government currently offers 15 hours of "extended" childcare to working parents in England for children aged 3 and 4 years old. Some all year round settings will stretch it throughout the whole year, however as Charnwood is a term time provision, our funding is per week during core hours. (9am-3pm) Additional wrap around care is charged per hour to the parent.

We've created this guide to help you work out if your child will be eligible for the 30-hour entitlement.

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## Eligibility

## **Charnwood Offer**

The government currently offers a further 15 hours "extended childcare" to working parents in England of children aged 3 and 4 years old meaning some families will be eligible to receive up to 30 hours of funded childcare.

For children to be eligible both parents must be working (or the sole parent is working in a lone parent family) and each parent will earn on average the equivalent of 16 hours per week at the minimum wage (£183.04 from April 24) and no more than £100,000 per year. If you are self-employed or on a zero-hours contract, you will be eligible if your average earnings meet the criteria above.

Families where one parent is not in paid employment (or neither parent is in paid employment) will not usually be eligible for the 30 hours, however they will still receive the current offer of the "universal 15 hours" childcare. There are exceptions for parents who are on parental, maternity, paternity, adoption, or sick leave.

Children will also be eligible if one parent works and the other is in receipt of benefits relating to caring responsibilities or has a disability. However, lone parents who are disabled or have substantial caring responsibilities will not be eligible; if you are in this position please come and chat with us so that we can ensure we are supporting you as best we can.

Parents who are studying or in training, will only be eligible if this is combined with paid work that meets the minimum average earnings threshold (see above).

Charnwood has made changes to the nursery provision offered, to give you more flexibility of childcare and to include the 30 hour extended childcare. There are also additional hours available through our before and after school clubs. These services will be available at an additional cost.

Parents who wish to apply for the 30 hour working entitlement should do so through www.childcarechoices.gov.uk

Once registered, this system will also automatically enter you into the <u>Tax-Free Childcare scheme</u> that can help you to cover the cost of childcare. For every £8 you pay into the account, the government will add £2 that you can then use to pay for any additional fees. If you need any help or advice on how to do this, please speak to us, we are more than happy to help.

If you are already accessing the 15 hours of funded childcare for 2 year olds, you will automatically be eligible for the 30 hours the term after your child's 3<sup>rd</sup> birthday (working families). All you need to do is re-confirm your eligibility every 3 months and the code provided by HMRC will continue to be used.

While Charnwood offers the option of 30 hour places to families, this is dependent on availability. Charnwood is consistently oversubscribed and it may not be possible to accommodate all requests for 30 hour places.

If you are unsure if you are eligible, we have created a quick eligibility tool on the back page that will allow you to do an initial self-assessment. If you're still not sure, please give us a call on 0161 442 7767 or drop us an email at info@charnwoodnursery.org.uk