

CONTACTS:

2,3&4 YEAR

FUNDING

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2 YEAR

FUNDING

APPLICATIONS

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Early Years Funding Spring Term 2024 Newsletter 1



January 2024

Funding Information– Spring Term 2024

Copies of the Termly Information Letters with the important dates and deadlines for the Early Years funding entitlements are on page 2 of the **Early Years and Childcare Website**: <https://schools.warwickshire.gov.uk/early-years-childcare-providers/early-education-funding-2-3-4-year-olds/2> click [here](#)

Spring Term 2024 Headcount and Census

The Estimate tab has now closed, your interim payments will be paid based on the hours we received on 8th January 2024.

The Provider Portal is open for entering Headcount claims and completing the Census Form until **26th January 2024**. If you have entered your headcount in advance, please make sure that it is still accurate and reflects the actual attendance during **Headcount and Census week 15th -19th January 2024**.

IMPORTANT REMINDER—ALL children MUST be ticked as present during Census.

The Provider Portal will open again on **19th February 2024** to enter Adjustments.

30 Hour Codes

Parents of children new to funding in the Spring term 2024 must have a 30 hour code dated on or by 31st December 2023. Parents can apply now for codes for funding from April 2024 via: <https://www.childcarechoices.gov.uk/>

Codes accepted in the Spring term 2024:

- New 30 hour codes for funding MUST have a start date before 31st December 2023 and an end date after 8th January 2024
- Children with 30 hour codes continuing 30 hours funding from the Autumn term 2023 MUST have a Grace period ending no earlier than 31st March 2024
- Temporary codes starting with 11 must have a start date by 14th January 2024
- 30 hour codes with a start date between 1st -14th January 2024 will only be accepted with evidence that an application was made before 31st December 2023 *refer to the funding office for guidance.*

Codes NOT accepted in the Spring term 2024:

- New 30 hour codes with a start date on or after 1st January 2024
- New 30 hour codes for funding with an expiry date before the term start date 8th January 2024.
- Children with 30 hour codes continuing funding from the Autumn term 2023 with a grace period ending on 31st December 2023 and a new start date on or after 1st January 2024.

2 Year Funding

Please help us to increase the take up of Childcare Funding for Disadvantaged 2 Year Olds by letting parents know that they may be entitled. To check their eligibility and make an online application parents can go to our website www.warwickshire.gov.uk/childcarecosts. **Applications for April 2024 are being processed now.**

The new entitlement for 2 year olds of working parents commences in April 2024. Parents can apply now for their eligibility code via <https://www.childcarechoices.gov.uk/> more details on page 2.

Facebook

Please follow FIS on **Facebook** and share the funding information with your parents, in particular **2 Help** and **Eligibility Code** information: <https://www.facebook.com/WarwickshireFIS?ref=hl>

Stop Press!

Leaflets:

For Electronic copies of the 2 Help and 3 & 4 year olds Parent Leaflet, including copies in several translations. click [here](#)

Information:

Check out the Early Years and Childcare Website: click [here](#) for copies of important Guidance documents and Information.

Reachdeck:

The Warwickshire website can be translated using Reachdeck: enter the following link in the search bar:

<https://www.texthelp.com/en-gb/products/reachdeck/>

Click on the translation symbol and select a language from the dropdown box.





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The Government's Expansion of Early Years Entitlements

At the Spring Budget 2023, the Government announced that funded childcare will be expanded to parents of eligible children over the age of nine months. Changes will start from April 2024.

The Government are introducing the expansion gradually, to make sure that providers can meet the needs of more families. The changes are set out below:

- From **April 2024**, working parents of two-year-olds will be able to access 15 hours of funded childcare a week
- From **September 2024**, working parents of children from the age of 9 months will be able to access 15 hours of funded childcare a week
- From **September 2025**, working parents of children from the age of 9 months up to school age will be able to access 30 hours of funded childcare a week

Further information is available from [The Education Hub – Free childcare: how we are tackling the cost of childcare](#)

Parents may be entitled to 15 hours, rising to 30 hours, funded childcare in line with the above if they are:

- a two-parent family, both working and each earns the equivalent of 16 hours per week paid at the national living wage
- each earning less than £100,000 per year OR
- a single parent, working and earn the equivalent of 16 hours per week paid at national living wage
- earning less than £100,000

How parents apply:

Parents must apply through HMRC at childcarechoices.gov.uk from 2nd January 2024 onwards.

HMRC will issue parents an eligibility code starting with 50 which they must give to their childcare provider. Children will be eligible to claim from the term following their second birthday or the term following the date the eligibility code was issued (whichever is later) until they go to school, provided the parents remain within the eligibility criteria. Parents **must reconfirm** their code every three months via their Gateway account.

EARLY YEARS ENTITLEMENTS EXPANSION

These new entitlements will be known as the 'Working parent entitlement' For further information visit www.childcarechoices.gov.uk

Stage 1:
From **April 2024**, working parents of **two-year-olds*** will be able to access 15 hours of funded childcare a week

Stage 2:
From **September 2024**, working parents of children from the age of **9 months*** will be able to access 15 hours of funded childcare a week

Stage 3:
From **September 2025**, working parents of children from the age of **9 months up to school age*** will be able to access 30 hours of funded childcare a week

* The entitlement starts from the term after the child has attained the relevant age. A valid eligibility code from HMRC will be required