

What is the Childcare Offer for Wales?

The Childcare Offer for Wales provides up to 30 hours of government-funded early education and childcare for three and four-year-olds for 48 weeks of the year. This builds on the existing universal commitment to early education, which provides three and four-year-olds with a minimum of 10 hours per week of provision – usually starting from the term after their third birthday.

Under the Childcare Offer, during school term time eligible parents are entitled to a maximum of 20 hours of funded childcare, in addition to the minimum 10 hours early education each week, making up a total of 30 hours of funded provision. The exact number of hours provided under the Childcare Offer for Wales varies by local authority, as many provide more than 10 hours of early education per week.

In addition to the 39 'term time' weeks, there are also nine weeks of holiday entitlement to help with childcare costs during school holidays. For these weeks, up to 30 hours of childcare will be funded under the Childcare Offer for eligible parents.

Childcare providers in either Wales or England can be used to provide the government-funded childcare. If the provider is located in Wales, they must be registered with Care Inspectorate Wales, or Ofsted if they are operating in England. Childcare provided by nannies or family members is not eligible for the funding under the Childcare Offer.



Childcare Offer for Wales for Parents in Education and Training

From September 2022, the Childcare Offer for Wales will be expanding to Parents in Education and Training. The expansion will mean that parents who are in Education or Training will be able to apply for the offer if they meet the eligibility criteria.

As a parent in Education or Training will I be eligible for the Childcare Offer?

Yes, providing you meet the following eligibility criteria:

- You live in Wales.
- You have an eligible child 3 to 4.
- You are enrolled on either an undergraduate, a postgraduate course, (including those delivered via distance or online learning), that is at least 10 weeks in length.
- You are enrolled on a course which is delivered via a Further Education Institution, that is at least 10 weeks in length.
- You have been accepted for an NHS funded full or part time course that leads to a professional registration, e.g., student nurse.

What evidence do you need to provide?

Parents will need to provide evidence that they have enrolled on a course, and this can be provided through an enrolment letter or email from the college or university with the title and length of the course.



How do I apply and where can I get more advice?

Applications opened from the beginning of July 2022 and for information on how to apply for the Childcare Offer and more detailed advice about support for childcare that may be available to you, you should contact your local Family Information Service (FIS).

You can find contact details for the FIS in your local authority at www.fis.wales/



The Childcare Offer for Wales / Cynnig Gofal Plant Cymru

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