

Childcare funding options and eligibility

The following is a brief overview of the different types of funding for childcare that are available. For more information, visit www.childcarechoices.gov.uk . You can also visit www.gov.uk/childcare-calculator to work out how much help you might be entitled to.

For further help and advice contact the Family Information Service – on 01273 293545, email: familyinfo@brighton-hove.gov.uk

To search for childcare in Brighton & Hove visit www.familyinfobrighton.org.uk

Possible financial support	What can parents claim?	Who can have the funding	Age of child	Further information
Tax free childcare	20% of childcare costs up to a maximum of £2000 per year. Families of children with SEND receive help up to a maximum of £4,000 per year.	Working parents not in receipt of tax credits/ Universal Credit whose gross annual household income is less than £100,000 per parent, but at least £115 per week each.	0-12 (up to 17 with SEND)	https://childcare-support.tax.service.gov.uk/
Childcare Element of Working Tax Credit	70% of childcare costs up to a maximum of £175 per week for 1 child or £300 per week for 2 or more children.	Lone parents who are working at least 16 hours per week, or couples where they are working 24 hours per week between them, with one working at least 16 hours.	0-16 (19 with SEND)	www.gov.uk/taxcredits Tel: 0345 300 3900
Universal Credit (In Brighton & Hove all new benefits claims from December 2017 will be moved to Universal Credit. Families already on benefits will be transferred onto Universal Credit in 2020)	85% of childcare costs, with same maximum levels as Working Tax Credit	Universal Credit* will replace six existing benefits with one monthly payment for non-working households and those on a low income. It is currently being rolled out across the country. You cannot claim both Universal Credit and Tax Free Childcare.	0-16 (19 with SEND)	www.gov.uk/universalcredit
Childcare Vouchers	Worth up to £55 per week for basic rate tax-payers. Currently available. No new applicants after 2017.	Some employers offer this by replacing part of your salary with childcare vouchers. If you are in a couple, you can both take advantage of the tax allowance if both employers run a childcare voucher scheme.	0-15 until 1st September following child's 15th birthday. (0-16 with SEND until 1st September following 16th birthday)	Ask your employer if they run a childcare voucher scheme.
Free Childcare for two year olds (also called Early Years Free	570 hours of free childcare across the year from the term after a child's second birthday.	Parents claiming out of work benefits or tax credits and with a household income no more than £16,190. Also eligible are children previously in the	Term after 2nd birthday	www.brighton-hove.gov.uk/twos

Entitlement)		care of a local authority, children with an EHCP (education health and care plan) and children who receive DLA		
Early Years Free Entitlement for Three and Four Year Olds	<p>570 hours of free childcare across the year, which equates to 15 hours per week term time only, and less hours if the childcare is taken year round.</p> <p>NEW 30 hours free childcare Working parents will get an additional 15 hours of free childcare equating to 30 hours per week term time only, or 1140 hours spread over the year.</p>	<p>ALL three and four year olds from the term after their third birthday</p> <p>Couples where both parents are working and <u>each</u> must be earning at least the equivalent of 16 hours per week at the national minimum wage Lone parents must be working and earning at least the equivalent of 16 hours per week at the national minimum wage but less than £100,000 per year.</p> <p>Self-employed parents must have earnings over a set period of time that equate to at least 16 hours per week at the national minimum wage but do not exceed £100,000 per year.</p> <p><i>To meet the minimum wage requirements you must be earning at least:</i> <i>Aged 25 and over – £125 per week</i> <i>Aged 21 to 24 - £112.80 per week</i> <i>Aged 18 to 20 - £89.60 per week</i></p>	<p>Term after 3rd birthday</p> <p>Term after third birthday. If you do not apply by the beginning of the term in which your child is eligible, your child will have to wait until the following term until they can start in a place</p>	<p>www.brighton-hove.gov.uk/fis</p> <p>https://childcare-support.tax.service.gov.uk/</p>
Care to Learn	Worth up to £160 per child per week outside of London, and £175 per week in London.	Parents under 20 at the start of their course in school, 6 th form or 6 th form college.	0-16	www.gov.uk/care-to-learn

The Childcare Grant	The grant could cover up to 85% of childcare costs up to a maximum of £155.24 for one child or £266.15 for two or more children.	For full time students in higher education who are eligible for Student Finance.	0-14 (0-16 with SEND)	www.gov.uk/student-finance
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