

## Childcare Entitlement Videos Transcripts

### 3&4 Year Funding

Hello my name is Gemma Ferguson and I am the Early Years Engagement Officer as part of the Early Years Team at Swindon Borough Council. I would like to talk to you today about the Universal 15 Hours and 30 Hours childcare that is available to your child once they turn 3 years old.

All children who turn 3 years old are eligible for the Universal 15 hours funding the term after their 3<sup>rd</sup> birthday. The term dates are the 1<sup>st</sup> September, the 1<sup>st</sup> January and the 1<sup>st</sup> April. There is no application process and the funding will automatically start once your child is registered at a childcare setting. The 30 hours, additional 15 hours applications are not managed by us and parent/carers are needing to apply online through the government website, Childcare Choices at [www.childcarechoices.gov.uk](http://www.childcarechoices.gov.uk)

Parent/carers are needing to meet a certain criteria to be eligible which includes all parents in the household working and earning a minimum of the national wage and not exceeding a £100,000 per year per parent. This is the main criteria but other criteria do apply such as if a parent is claiming ESA (Employment Support Allowance) and is unable to work or has significant caring responsibilities for the child, there is further information available on the website about where to apply. If both parent/carers are employed but one or both are temporarily away from the workplace due to maternity or paternity leave, both parent/carers are employed but one parent is away from the workplace on adoption leave, statutory sick pay, is disabled or incapacitated based on receipt of specific benefits.

You are able to apply from when your child is 2 years old and 9 months or the term before their 3<sup>rd</sup> birthday. If your child turns 3 between the 1<sup>st</sup> September and the 31<sup>st</sup> December, the earliest you can apply is from the 15<sup>th</sup> October to the 30<sup>th</sup> November and this will give your child a start date of the 1<sup>st</sup> January. If your child turns 3 between the 1<sup>st</sup> January and the 31<sup>st</sup> March, the earliest you can apply is the 15<sup>th</sup> January until the 28<sup>th</sup> February and this will give your child a start date of April the 1<sup>st</sup>. If your child turns 3 between the 1<sup>st</sup> April and the 31<sup>st</sup> of August, the earliest you can apply is the 15<sup>th</sup> June to the 31<sup>st</sup> July and this will give your child a start date of the 1<sup>st</sup> of September.

You are able to apply outside of these recommended dates but you may not receive your code in time. It is very important to remember that you MUST have a valid code by the end of the month before a new term starts including if your child has not yet become eligible. This is because you will not receive the funding for that term if the code isn't renewed.

There is a hotline number on the Childcare Choices website which is 0300 123 4097 for any application queries.

If you would like further information on the Universal 15 Hours or 30 Hours Funding please call my mobile on 07812759534 or please contact the council main switchboard on Swindon 01793 445500 or please send an email to [earlyeducation@swindon.gov.uk](mailto:earlyeducation@swindon.gov.uk)  
([EY&CBrokerage@swindon.gov.uk](mailto:EY&CBrokerage@swindon.gov.uk))

Thank you for taking the time to listen to me today and I look forward to hearing from you.