

## What is on offer for 2-year-olds?

### 15 hours free childcare

Almost a third of families with a 2-year-old in Waltham Forest are eligible to up to 15 hours of Free Early Education Entitlement (FEEE) per week during term time or 570 hours across the year.

**Check Now!** Please visit:  
[walthamforest.gov.uk/eychecker](http://walthamforest.gov.uk/eychecker)

Fill in the online form to get your eligibility code and letter, then take it along with your child's birth certificate to your school or childcare provider. **Only providers with a Good or Outstanding Ofsted rating can provide FEEE places.**

### Need assistance?

**Contact the Childcare Team**  
[childcare@walthamforest.gov.uk](mailto:childcare@walthamforest.gov.uk)  
**020 8496 3566**

**Your 2-year-old will be eligible if your family gets one of the following benefits:**

- income support or income-based Job Seeker's Allowance (JSA)
- income-related Employment and Support Allowance (ESA)
- support under Part 6 of the Immigration and Asylum Act

- the guaranteed element of State Pension Credit
- Tax Credits, and you have an annual income under £16,190 before tax
- Working Tax Credit run-on
- Universal Credit, and you have an annual income under £15,400.

**If you're not receiving any benefits, your 2-year-old can qualify for free childcare and early learning if they:**

- have a statement of Special Educational Needs (SEN statement) or have an Education, Health and Care plan (EHC plan)

- get Disability Living Allowance (DLA)
- are looked after by a local authority in England or Wales ('in care') or have left care under a special guardianship order, child arrangement order or adoption order in England or Wales.



## What is on offer for 3 & 4 year olds?

### 15 hours free childcare and early learning

Good news! All families are entitled to 15 hours of free childcare and early learning per week in school term time, or 570 hours across the whole year. Just contact your preferred school or childcare provider to apply directly, contact the Childcare Team for assistance in finding a place, or visit: [walthamforest.gov.uk/childcareproviders](http://walthamforest.gov.uk/childcareproviders)

### 30 hours free childcare

Working families (including foster families\*) earning at least £131 a week or more could get an extra 15 hours of free childcare – a total of 30 hours per week in school term time or 1140 hours across the whole year.

\* Subject to foster child's care plan

### Tax-free childcare from 0–12\*

Working families in the UK with children under 12 (\*or under 17 if disabled) can apply. For every £8 you pay in,

the government will add an extra £2, up to £2,000 per child per year, or £4,000 per year for a child registered as disabled.

### Find out more about 30 hours and Tax-free childcare

Visit [childcarechoices.gov.uk](http://childcarechoices.gov.uk) to set up a Tax-Free Childcare account and apply for your 30 hours eligibility code. Call the HMRC childcare helpline **0300 123 4097**



## How does it help our family?

- High-quality early education allows your child to have fun learning through play
- Research shows that a high-quality early learning environment helps prepare children for school
- You will have more time for appointments, work or studying
- You can relax knowing that your child is cared for safely by experienced professionals
- You can find out how to help your child with their learning at home.

## How to apply & when

All children are eligible to 15 hours of free education, (or 30 hours if eligible) from the term after they turn 3.

If your child is eligible for 15 hours Free Early Education Entitlement (FEEE) for 2-year-olds, they can start in a FEEE providing setting the term after they turn 2. Find out from your chosen provider how and when to apply.

Birthday is between:	Start date from:
1st January – 31st March	1st April
1st April – 31st August	1st September
1st September – 31st December	1st January

## IMPORTANT

If you're claiming 30 hour free childcare, **you must apply and receive your eligibility code before the term begins.**

If you do not get this in time, you will need to wait until the next term.

30 hour codes need reconfirming every three months.

## Need more help?

We can help with any enquiries regarding childcare:

[childcare@walthamforest.gov.uk](mailto:childcare@walthamforest.gov.uk)  
**020 8496 3566**

To find your local Children and Family Centre visit:  
[walthamforest.gov.uk/childrenandfamilycentres](http://walthamforest.gov.uk/childrenandfamilycentres)

To find out more about 30 hours for 3 and 4 year olds and Tax-Free Childcare visit:  
[childcarechoices.gov.uk](http://childcarechoices.gov.uk)  
**or call helpline 0300 123 4097**

**Most of all, your child is learning with other children, making friends and having fun!**



## What if I want to use more or fewer hours or my child is not ready?

You don't have to use all the hours you are entitled to. If you only want your child to go for a few hours a week, that's ok. Alternatively, you can pay for extra hours if you need! Please discuss with your childcare provider.

### I'm not sure if my child is ready?

You can join them in a Stay 2 Play session – a safe, fun, stimulating environment. Learning through play with other children alongside their parents or carers with experienced professionals.

These sessions offer a range of activities allowing your child to paint, read, cook, climb, sing, dance, dress up, jump, run around... whatever they like doing!

To find out more visit:

[walthamforest.gov.uk/stay2play](http://walthamforest.gov.uk/stay2play)



To attend your free session, complete the online Free Early Education Entitlement eligibility check, visit: [walthamforest.gov.uk/eychecker](http://walthamforest.gov.uk/eychecker)

Whether your child is eligible or not, just bring the unique reference number which you'll get when you fill in the online form. This reference number will be your free entry to this session.

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## What else is available for children under 5?

Children and Family Centres offer a wide range of **free** or low-cost activities, services and support to families with children under 5 – just come along and join in!

Services and activities include:

- early years education
- drop-in and play sessions for parents/carers and their children
- health services such as breast feeding support, baby clinics, nutrition and baby massage sessions
- jobs, career and training information

- money management and advice sessions
- speech and language development
- advice for children with additional needs
- family support and outreach services
- meet other parents and make new friends.

### Find out what's on in your local area

**Role Play**, the timetable of Children and Family Centre activities, is available both online and at your local Children and Family Centre.

Visit: [walthamforest.gov.uk/childrenandfamilycentres](http://walthamforest.gov.uk/childrenandfamilycentres)

## What's next?

Contact your chosen school or childcare setting directly, find out when they are open, if they have places and arrange to visit them to look around. If you like them, and want to register, show them your:

- child's birth certificate or passport
- eligibility code (2-year-olds and 30 hours only)
- National Insurance number (30 hours only)

Arrange a start date for your child to enjoy their free place!

For more guidance on what to ask, visit [walthamforest.gov.uk/childcarequestions](http://walthamforest.gov.uk/childcarequestions)

Your child can go to one or two childcare providers, whichever suits you best.

### Need help?

[childcare@walthamforest.gov.uk](mailto:childcare@walthamforest.gov.uk)

**020 8496 3566**

[walthamforest.gov.uk/freechildcare](http://walthamforest.gov.uk/freechildcare)

### Where can I find a school or childcare provider?

Find your local registered school, nursery, pre-school or childminders at [walthamforest.gov.uk/childcareproviders](http://walthamforest.gov.uk/childcareproviders)

## Information available in other languages

For information in your language, please visit [walthamforest.gov.uk/childcare](http://walthamforest.gov.uk/childcare) and click on the 'SPEAK OR TRANSLATE ME' button at the top of the page or call us on the number below.

اپنی زبان میں معلومات حاصل کرنے کے لیے براہ کرم [walthamforest.gov.uk/childcare](http://walthamforest.gov.uk/childcare) پر ملاحظہ کریں اور صفحے کے سب سے اوپر موجود 'SPEAK OR TRANSLATE ME' کے بٹن پر کلک کریں یا مندرجہ ذیل نمبر پر ہمیں کال کریں۔

Pentru mai multe informații în limba dvs., vizitați [walthamforest.gov.uk/childcare](http://walthamforest.gov.uk/childcare) și faceți clic pe butonul 'SPEAK OR TRANSLATE ME' din partea de sus a paginii sau sunați-ne la numărul de mai jos.

Jej norite gauti informacijos savo kalba, apsilankykite [walthamforest.gov.uk/childcare](http://walthamforest.gov.uk/childcare)

**childcare** ir spustelėkite puslapio viršuje esantį mygtuką 'SPEAK OR TRANSLATE ME' arba paskambinkite mums žemiau nurodytu numeriu.

Kendi dilinizde daha fazla bilgi için [walthamforest.gov.uk/childcare](http://walthamforest.gov.uk/childcare) adresini ziyaret ederek sayfanın üstündeki 'SPEAK OR TRANSLATE ME' butonuna tıklayabilir ya da aşağıdaki telefon numarasından bizi arayabilirsiniz.

Aby uzyskać informacje w swoim języku, odwiedź stronę [walthamforest.gov.uk/childcare](http://walthamforest.gov.uk/childcare) i kliknij na przycisk 'SPEAK OR TRANSLATE ME' na górze strony lub zadzwoń pod numer podany poniżej.

SPEAK OR TRANSLATE

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# FREE

## Childcare and Early Learning for 2, 3 & 4 year olds



[walthamforest.gov.uk/freechildcare](http://walthamforest.gov.uk/freechildcare)  
[childcare@walthamforest.gov.uk](mailto:childcare@walthamforest.gov.uk)  
020 8496 3566



For more information about Free Childcare and Early Learning for 2, 3 and 4-year-olds visit: **[walthamforest.gov.uk/freechildcare](https://walthamforest.gov.uk/freechildcare)**

Contact the Early Years and Childcare Team  
**[childcare@walthamforest.gov.uk](mailto:childcare@walthamforest.gov.uk)**

**Helpline: 020 8496 3566**

Find a childcare provider  
**[walthamforest.gov.uk/childcareproviders](https://walthamforest.gov.uk/childcareproviders)**

Visit your local Children and Family Centre  
**[walthamforest.gov.uk/  
childrenandfamilycentres](https://walthamforest.gov.uk/childrenandfamilycentres)**

Claim Tax-Free Childcare and 30 hours for 3 and 4 year olds  
**[childcarechoices.gov.uk](https://childcarechoices.gov.uk)**  
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