

Free Twos - Free Childcare for Two Year Olds

What is it?

The offer of up to ten hours of free childcare per week during school terms (38 weeks in a year) focuses on economically disadvantaged families.

The aims of the offer in Cambridgeshire are to:

- Deliver an offer of free childcare provision to the most disadvantaged two-year-olds
- Improve outcomes and narrow the gap in educational achievement between disadvantaged children and other children in the county
- Improve outcomes for parents, signposting them to services and supporting them as appropriate
- Increase the take-up of the Early Years Funding for three and four-year-olds.

How can I find out if my child is eligible?

Speak to your local children's centre or contact the Childcare Information Service for information about which children's centre you need to approach.

All referrals for places must go through a children's centre.

To qualify you must be in receipt of one of the following benefits:

- Income Support
- Income based Job Seekers' Allowance
- Income based Employment and Support Allowance
- Extra Working Tax Credit relating to a Disability
- Pension Credit
- Child Tax Credit at a rate higher than the family element*
- Support under Part VI of the Immigration & Asylum Act 1999

*a rate of more than £545 per year or £1090 per year if there is a baby under one.

Additionally, due to restricted funding, the free childcare is prioritised according to assessed need. The children's centre will be able to talk to you about any additional criteria.

Childcare Information Service

Website: www.familiesandchildcare.org.uk

Email: familiesandchildcare@young-lives.org.uk

Tel: 0345 04 54 014 (charged at the cost of a local call)

Children's Centres

For information about individual children's centres:

Website: www.cambridgeshirechildrenscentres.org.uk

Tel: 01223 699786