



## 30 Hours Funding Explained

- As of September 2025, the Government introduced '30 free hours funding' for **eligible** children aged between 9 months and 4 years old.
- This funding can be used in all Nurseries, Pre-schools and Childminders who have registered for the scheme.
- The 30 hours are based on an academic year. Which means term time provisions will provide the funding over the 38-week academic year, however full-time nurseries (including Tree Tots) it will be spread over the full year, this is equivalent to **22 free hours per week**.
- The funding will cover a maximum of 10 hours per day.
- The funded provision must deliver the Early Years Foundation Stage (EYFS) Framework

### When you can start claiming

- The date you can start claiming depends on your child's birthday:

Child's 3 <sup>rd</sup> birthday falls between:	When you can claim:
1 January to 31 March	The beginning of term on or after 1 April
1 April to 31 August	The beginning of term on or after 1 September
1 September to 31 December	The beginning of term on or after 1 January

### You will need to meet the following criteria in order to be eligible for 30 hours funded childcare:

- You earn or expect to earn the equivalent to 16 hours at National Minimum or more.
- This applies whether you are in paid employment, self-employed or on zero hours' contract.
- You (and your partner, where applicable) should be seeking the free childcare to enable you to work or if you are on maternity, paternity, shared parental or adoption leave, or you are on statutory sick leave.
- You may also be eligible in the event that one parent meets the income criteria but the other is unable to work because they are disabled, have caring responsibilities or have been assessed as having limited capability to work.
- If you (or your partner where applicable) is in a 'start-up period' (i.e. you are newly self-employed) you do not need to demonstrate that you meet the income criteria for 12 months.



**You will not be eligible for the 30 hours funded childcare if:**

- 🌳 Either parent has an income of more than £100,000.
- 🌳 Either parent is a non-EEA national and subject to immigration control (and has no recourse to public funds).

Any child not eligible for the 30-hour funding will still be eligible for the 15 hours entitlement the term after their third birthday.

**How it will work at tree tots: sessions**

Tree Tots is Open Monday – Friday from 7am – 6pm.

As funded hours only allow for 10 hours per day, should you need to use nursery services for longer than this (as we are open for 11 hours) there will be a charge of £10 per funded day.

**How it will work at tree tots: 10 hours per day**

Tree Tots is open all year around (apart from the week between Christmas and New Year when we close). Therefore we will spread the funding over 51 weeks.

This is equal to 22 hours per week.

Funding will cover a maximum of 10 hours per day, this equates to two funded 10 hour sessions per week with two hours remaining.

The remaining two hours can either be:

- a) forfeited (for those only wishing to do two days per week at nursery)
- b) saved up and used every 5th week for those wishing to do more than 2 days at Nursery (this is because you will accrue 2 funded hours per week for 5 weeks = 10 hours, this can be used to fund your third day of every 5th week).

**Additional costs**

We ask that parents contribute a small fee (for each funded session) to cover the cost of meals, drinks and snacks:

Session attended	Charge for Food	Meals included*
10 hour day	£16	Breakfast, lunch, afternoon snack, tea
5 hour morning session	£12	For breakfast and lunch
5 hour afternoon session	£12	For afternoon snack and tea

If you do not wish to pay £16, we will ask you to provide all food and snacks for your child throughout the day (this food will need to be allergen safe and ready to eat as we will not be able to do any preparation at nursery).

**Contact:**

**Email:** [treetotsnursery@outlook.com](mailto:treetotsnursery@outlook.com)

**Phone:** 01625 874 555

**Facebook:** Tree Tots Nursery Poynton

**Or pop in to see us at:** Tree Tots Day Nursery, Willow Close (off Park Lane), Poynton, SK12 1RG



## 15 Hour Funding

- 🌳 The previous government scheme of 15 hours funding is still available to all three- and four-year-olds who are not eligible for the 30-hours entitlement, this funding is not subject to any financial criteria. Some 2 years old may also be entitled to this funding.
- 🌳 As with the 30-hour funding, at Tree Tots we spread the 15 hours over a 51-week year, this is equivalent to 11 hours per week.
- 🌳 Therefore, a second funded day is accrued every 10<sup>th</sup> week.
- 🌳 Meals charges apply as above.

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