Free Childcare Deadlines 2027 Planner

30 hours free childcare in England: apply-by and start dates

DATE	WHAT HAPPENS	DONE
Dec. 31, 2026 (Thu.)	Apply by if your child turns 9 months old Sep. 1 to Dec. 31, 2026	☐
Fri., Jan. 1	Hours can start for that group	☐
Wed., Mar. 31	Apply by if your child turns 9 months old Jan. 1 to Mar. 31	☐
Thu., Apr. 1	Hours can start for that group	☐
Tue., Aug. 31	Apply by if your child turns 9 months old Apr. 1 to Aug. 31	☐
Wed., Sep. 1	Hours can start for that group	☐
Every 3 months	Sign in to your childcare account and reconfirm your details	☐

My notes

Source: GOV.UK Free Childcare for Working Parents (when to apply, after applying). Check your start date with your childcare provider.