Summary

The Budget announced a range of measures to support education and help parents with childcare so they can return to work more easily



Entitlements: Eligible working parents in England will be able to access 30 hours of free childcare per week, for 38 weeks a year, from when their child is 9 months old to when they start school. Govt will also increase the hourly rate for providers.



Wraparound: The government will invest £289m over two academic years, from Sept 2024, to enable schools and local areas to set up wraparound childcare provision



Market reforms, including more choice for childminders and changes to EYFS requirements, to improve flexibility for providers and support the workforce.



Changing staff:child ratios from 1:4 to 1:5 for two-year-olds in England to align with Scotland and provide greater flexibility for providers



Childminder grants to attract people to childminding, with £1200 for those who register with a childminder agency and £600 for those who register with Ofsted



Universal Credit reforms will pay childcare support up-front when parents move into work or increase their hours and increase the monthly re-imbursement caps



These will be rolled out in stages, to ensure enough supply in the system

Autumn 2023	Childminder grants become available Invest £204m into 3/4yo and 2yo funding rate Staff:child 2yo ratio change
April 2024	 15hrs for eligible working parents of 2-year-olds introduced Invest £288m into 3/4 yo and 2yo funding rates
Sept 2024	National wraparound support begins 15hrs for eligible working parents of children 9 months plus introduced
Sept 2025	30hrs for eligible working parents of children from 9 months to primary school age introduced
Sept 2026	All schools able to offer 8am-6pm wraparound on their own or in partnership