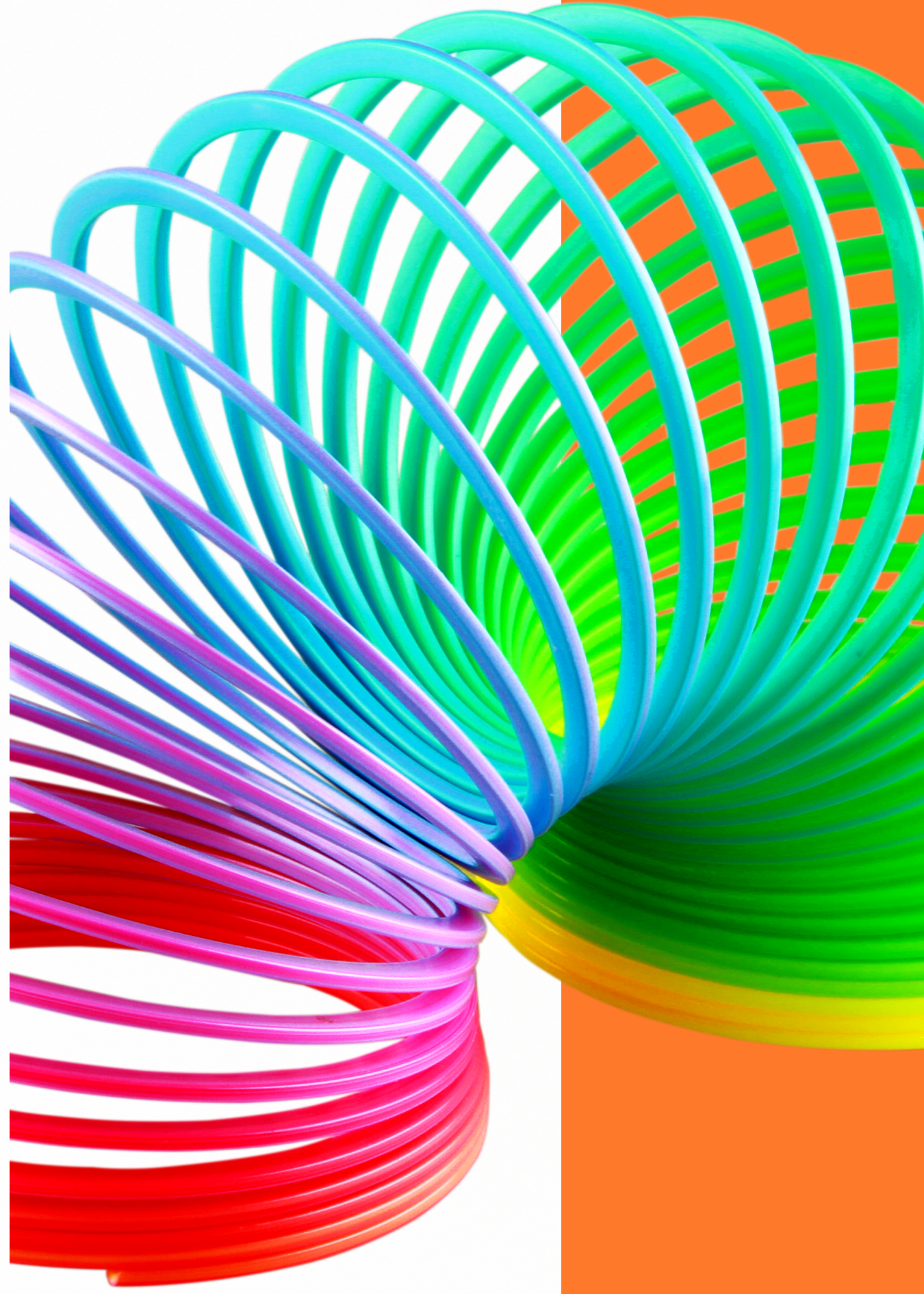




Funding Application Process for Families



2026 - 2027

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Welcome

- > Nurture
- > Passion
- > Inclusion
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Spring by Action for Children are a modern, award-winning childcare brand offering extended childcare services from birth to 12 years, through our Spring Nurseries and Spring Oscars Out of School Clubs across the United Kingdom. We are committed to providing seamless childcare solutions for every step of a child's journey.



It is our mission to give children a healthy start in life, equipping them with the support, knowledge and nurturing they need to thrive, whilst leaving a lasting positive impact. We believe in providing high quality childcare services and opportunities for children that are accessible to all. We do this by ensuring a holistic and sustainable approach to health and wellbeing across all our settings for children and families, with a key focus on nutrition, outdoor play, and mental health.



Your guide to Fees & Funding:

Government Funding Options

Fees and Funding can feel complicated and is another thing for busy parents to think about in their already hectic schedule. We hope that our guide helps communicate the fees and funding information in a simple, understandable manner.

Tax Free Childcare - Age 0-11 years

- For working families, including the self-employed, in the UK
- Earning under £100k and at least £167 per week (equal to 16 hours at the National Minimum or Living Wage) each
- Who aren't receiving Tax Credits, Universal Credit or childcare vouchers
- With children aged 0-11 (or 0-16 if disabled)
- For every £8 you pay into an online account, the government will add an extra £2, up to £2,000 per child per year.

Funded Childcare 9 month - 4 years Working families

- For eligible working families in England
- With children aged from 9 months up to 4 years. This starts the term after they turn 9 months old
- 30 hours of free childcare or early education for 38 weeks of the year
- A total of 1,140 funded hours per year, which can be used flexibly with one or more childcare provider
- **Parents must apply for and receive a valid funding code before accessing the funded hours**

15 Hours Funded Childcare - Age 2 - 3 years

- For eligible families in England with 2-year-old children
- 15 hours of funded childcare for 38 weeks starting the term after your child's 2nd birthday
- Eligibility criteria apply and may vary by funding offer inline with your local authority.
- Up to 570 funded hours per year
- Hours can be used flexibly with one or more childcare provider

Universal Credit for Childcare - Age 0-16

15 Hours Funded Childcare - Age 3&4 years

- For all families in England starting the term after your child's 3rd birthday
- With 3 and 4-year-old children
- 15 hours of free childcare or early education for 38 weeks
- A total of 570 hours per year, that you can use flexibly with one or more childcare provider

- For working families claiming Universal Credit, in England, Scotland, Northern Ireland and Wales
- With children under 17*
- Up to 85% of eligible childcare costs
- Who aren't receiving Tax-Free Childcare

At Spring we stretch funding to ensure your child receive consistent care throughout the year. Please speak to the nursery manager for more information.



Stretched funding is a way to spread your child's yearly free childcare entitlement across more weeks of the year instead of using it all up during standard school term times. Key features include the same total annual hours, fewer weekly hours, and year-round consistency.

What is stretched funding?

How it works...

- **Total Hours Stay the Same:** You get the exact same yearly amount (such as 570 hours for the 15-hour entitlement or 1,140 hours for the 30-hour entitlement), but it is divided by a larger number of weeks (up to 51 or 52 weeks) instead of just 38 term-time weeks.
- **Fewer Hours Per Week:** For example, 15 hours a week during term time can be changed to about 11 hours a week when stretched across the entire year.
- **Even Payments:** It helps parents and nurseries manage costs evenly every month, avoiding high bills during school breaks.





Childcare support checker

Find out what childcare support you could get, how much childcare might cost, and search for providers near you by using the link below:



Other Funding: Help for Households

The government is offering help for households.

Check what cost of living support you could be eligible for at gov.uk/helpforhouseholds

[Best Start in Life](#)
[Childcare Support](#)
[Checker](#)



Let's talk about EYPP

EYPP (Early Years Pupil Premium) is extra government funding given to early years providers to help improve the learning and development of children whose families meet certain criteria. The funding can go towards things like new learning resources, extra activities or additional support to help your child thrive.

When completing child's declaration form make sure to tick the box to check if you are eligible for the Early Years Pupil Premium, it only takes a moment but could make a big difference to your child's early education.

It won't affect any of your benefits, but it could really benefit your child.

Don't miss out.



How to claim funded childcare

01

Check your eligibility -

refer to previous slide

02

Get your code -

apply online via
<https://www.gov.uk/free-childcare-if-working/apply-for-free-childcare-if-youre-working>

03

Receive your code -

Keep it safe and share it with your nursery - we will validate your code and apply the funded hours to your child's place

04

DEADLINES

Funding works in blocks

You must apply before:

31st March

31st August

31st December

05

We're here to support you!

We'll talk you through your options and help you understand your options for funding

06

What your funding covers:

Funding covers a set number of hours per week.

You may still need to pay for extra hours beyond your entitlement, like meals or other consumables

07

Renew your code:

You must reconfirm your eligibility EVERY 3 MONTHS.

The Government will send you reminders.

IF YOU DON'T RENEW, YOUR FUNDING COULD STOP AND YOU WILL BE LIABLE FOR ALL FEES.

08

SUMMARY:

- APPLY ONLINE
- GET YOUR CODE
- GIVE IT TO US
- RENEW EVERY 3 MONTHS
- APPLY BEFORE THE DEADLINES

Family App Set-up

Parent's love our Family app for keeping them informed throughout each nursery day. We pride ourselves on using modern innovative technology to log each child's observations, learning journey, invoicing and information relating to each child through a secure and reliable app that parents can access whenever they like at no extra cost.

01

Download and set-up

- Receive your Famly login details from your nursery
- Download the Famly App from your App Store or Google Play
- Log in using your email address & Password

02

Stay connected to your child's day

- Open the newsfeed to see updates, photos and activities
- View your child's profile for daily care and learning updates
- Send messages to the Nursery staff through the App

03

Manage information and payments

- Report sickness, holidays or absences when needed
- Check invoices, balances and make payments securely
- Turn on notifications to stay up to date in real time.



Get in touch



Spring Childcare	Spring Nurseries	Spring Oscars
   	 	 

