

Dads in the 2015 manifestos

Party	Does the party manifesto specifically mention fathers?	Other relevant policy ideas	Where to read the manifesto
Conservative	No	<p>Married couples/ civil partners would be able to transfer £1,060 of their tax-free income to their husband/ wife/ civil partner</p> <p>Families where both parents are working would be entitled to 30 hours' free childcare for their 3-4 year olds</p> <p>Would spend £7.5 million on relationship support.</p>	<p>https://www.conservatives.com/manifesto</p>

<p>Labour</p>	<p>Yes – the party would double paid paternity leave, extending its length from two to four weeks and increasing the level of paternity pay from £140 to more than £260 a week.</p>	<p>Would restore the role of Sure Start centres as hubs for family services, requiring centres to offer childcare in order to deliver up to 50,000 extra Sure Start childcare places and give every child a good start.</p> <p>Would extend free childcare from 15 to 25 hours for working parents of three and four-year-olds, and ensure all primary schools guarantee access to wraparound childcare from 8am to 6pm</p>	<p>http://www.labour.org.uk/manifesto</p>
<p>Liberal Democrats</p>	<p>Yes – the party would dedicate six weeks of parental leave exclusively to fathers. Dads wouldn't be able to share the six weeks with the mother, providing an additional "use it or lose it" month, and also means total parental leave would be extended to 58 weeks. In a same-sex couple, each partner would be entitled to six weeks' reserved leave, with the rest available to share.</p>	<p>Every two year old would be eligible for 570 hours a year of childcare from an Ofsted approved provider of their parents' choice. This includes nursery schools; nurseries on school sites; children's centres; day nurseries and childminders.</p> <p>Would extend free childcare to children aged between nine months and two years if all the parents in their household are in work. This could be both parents in a two-parent home,</p>	<p>http://www.libdems.org.uk/manifesto</p>

		or just one parent in a single-parent family.	
Plaid Cymru	No	Would provide an extra year of early-years education to allow parents to choose to work and provide financially accessible child care in order to enable women to work.	https://www.partyof.wales/2015-manifesto/
Scottish National Party	Yes – the party promises ‘greater support for working parents with increased paternity leave’.	<p>Would work towards an expansion in free nursery education, from 16 hours a week to 30 hours, for all 3 and 4 year olds and eligible 2 year olds.</p> <p>Would tighten the law on maternity discrimination, with legislation introduced within the first year of a new UK government.</p> <p>Would regulate to compel employers of more than 250 people to publish annual gender pay gap information, starting in 2016-17.</p>	http://votesnp.com/docs/manifesto.pdf
Green Party	No	The party would extend the education system to provide a	https://www.greenparty.org.uk/we-stand-for/2015-manifesto.html

		<p>free, universal and flexible system of good-quality early education and support for parents from birth until the age of compulsory education.</p> <p>This would include: free early education and childcare service for all children from birth until compulsory education age (raised to 7), led by qualified teachers with specialist knowledge of early years education, and with all other staff qualified to level 3. Parents would be encouraged to help run the service.</p> <p>Parents would receive much increased Child Benefit from 2016 and would continue to receive Statutory Maternity and Paternity Pay.</p>	
<p>UK Independence Party</p>	<p>Yes – the party would legislate for an initial presumption of 50-50 shared parenting in child residency matters. Would also review the Family Court system, with the intention of implementing</p>	<p>Would continue to fund the current childcare offer of 15 hours a week of free childcare at a nursery, preschool, or for a childminder, for all 3 to 4-year-olds, and for all 2-year-olds whose parents are on certain benefits. Would</p>	<p>http://www.ukip.org/manifesto2015</p>

	independent lay oversight of Family Courts, to ensure necessary confidentiality does not prevent proper scrutiny in this and all areas of Family Law.	de-regulate childcare provision, to allow parents to use any third-party, non-related child carer they felt comfortable placing their child with, provided the care provided can be proven to be genuine. This would encourage experienced parents whose own children have grown up, or who would like to combine looking after other people's children alongside their own, to offer childcare.	
Democratic Unionist Party	No	Would invest in early intervention projects, including expansion of Family Nurse Partnership.	http://www.mydup.com/policies
SDLP	No	Would reform the welfare system to offer parents, and particularly mothers, the opportunity and support for re-entering the workforce.	http://sdlp.ie/issues/election-2015/
Alliance	No	Would develop affordable childcare opportunities by supporting the continued dual-provision of childcare vouchers and childcare payments, and increasing the tax-free	http://allianceparty.org/document/manifesto#document

		allowance for childcare and the number of hours of free childcare available.	
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