

UK fathers in their first year

New dads need more workplace support

- Working hours are the strongest influence on fathers' engagement with their infants – and their level of engagement in Year One shapes their level of involvement in Year Three (more even than their working hours in Year Three).
- Studies have found a direct relationship between fathers' leave-taking and their direct involvement in routine childcare and housework – in terms of both *frequency* of caregiving activities and *share* of parental infant care.
- *Solo* care by fathers, especially in Year One, is especially significant for gender equality, child outcomes, family wellbeing and father-child relationships. It is a stronger predictor of fathers' engagement with their 3- year-olds than general involvement in nurturing care tasks.
- Fathers in the UK have no individual entitlement to paid parental leave. They have a statutory right to 10 working days' paternity leave, to be taken directly after their child's birth and paid at a statutory rate that is lower than the minimum wage.

*These facts and insights are drawn from **Bringing Baby Home**, the Fatherhood Institute's evidence review about first-year fatherhood in the UK, funded by the Nuffield Foundation.*

For references and to read the full report, executive summary and recommendations, visit the resources section of our website.

Join the Fatherhood Institute's campaign to improve support for fathers, Time with Dad [here](#)