



# Services for Young Children

## Early Years Education and Childcare Statutory Guidance, and Funding for Working Parents of 2 year-olds

The new early education and childcare statutory guidance for local authorities has now been published online, and is available at [Early education and childcare - GOV.UK \(www.gov.uk\)](https://www.gov.uk/government/consultations/early-education-and-childcare).

The DFE has published the updated model agreement, and updated guidance for foster parents. We are reviewing these and these will inform changes to our Hampshire Early Years Funding Terms and Conditions which will be made available in due course.

### Funding Code for Working Parents of 2-Year-Olds

The DFE have informed that as 2 January 2024, eligible working parents of 2-year-olds will be able to apply for a code for 15 hours of childcare, starting from **1 April 2024**. Please note, the DFE are recommending that parents start applying for their codes from **mid-January**.

We are still in the process of making changes to our provider portal so that you can check and validate these codes yourself. In the meantime if you do receive any codes that you need urgently checking, please complete this form: [Services for Young Children Working Families eligibility codes \(2-year-old from April\)](#).

Services for Young Children (SfYC) have access to the Department for Working Pensions (DWP) Eligibility Checking Service and will be able to confirm the eligibility status of codes during the interim period. **Please note that this is for 2-year-old Working Families eligibility codes only.**

We recommend that if you receive queries from parents regarding their eligibility, you direct them to <https://www.childcarechoices.gov.uk/> in the first instance. This is our parent-facing website which helps parents understand what entitlements they may be able to receive.