

# Early Years and Childcare

Stakeholders briefing sheet no. 5 (April 2019)

## Do you know a 2-year-old?

There are free early years education places available in Hampshire for children aged two.

These places are available in registered nurseries, pre-schools or with childminders that are approved to provide early years education and have achieved an Ofsted rating of 'good' or 'outstanding'. Details of these providers can be found from the [Family Information and Services Hub](#).

This is an opportunity for young children to boost their development, giving them the opportunity to learn, thrive and play.

To be eligible for the free funding parents will be in receipt of welfare benefits, or the child is in care or has a special educational need or disability.

For [further details and to apply](#), parents need to complete the online application. If parents require further help they can contact Services for Young Children: [childcare@hants.gov.uk](mailto:childcare@hants.gov.uk) or telephone 01962 847070. What's new for 30 Hours?

## What's the Early Years Pupil Premium?

Like the pupil premium available in Hampshire schools for children in Reception year up to Year 11, the Early Years Pupil Premium (EYPP) will provide nurseries, pre-schools and childminders with extra funding to support children in achieving the best early years outcomes.

A childcare provider may be entitled to claim the additional EYPP funding for a 3 or 4-year-old child who are in receipt of their free Early Years Education place.

The eligibility criteria is similar to that of families of 2 year olds who get Early Years Education funding - though it does not include children who have additional needs as defined by the SEND Code of Practice.

The Early Years Pupil Premium can help by providing:

- extra training for staff
- support for developing children's speech and language and learning
- greater links between the early education setting and families

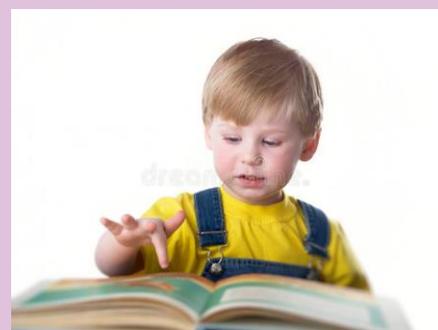
- further opportunities and experiences to prepare children with starting school

The funding that the provider receives for individual children may be 'pooled' together across other providers and schools in their locality, enabling access to other opportunities such as a specialist practitioner or specific resources that can be effectively shared.

A child who has left care through adoption, special guardianship or has a child arrangements order may also be able to benefit from EYPP.

To apply, parents need to speak to their child's childcare provider and complete an application form.

See [further details](#).



<https://www.dreamstime.com/child-free-stock-image-image-free-8728846>



Hampshire  
County Council

[www.hants.gov.uk](http://www.hants.gov.uk)

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## Tax-Free Childcare/ 30 Hours Childcare - re-confirmation

Parents who have received 30 Hours or Tax-Free Childcare in this period **must** ensure that they reconfirm their eligibility to HMRC when requested to. Re-confirmation is required every 3 months (12 weeks) to ensure that the family is still eligible.

Parents will receive a reminder 4 weeks before the validity end date is due. This will either be an email or SMS text message, and a message will also appear in the parent's online childcare account.

It is possible that reminder emails have gone into spam folders instead of in-boxes. Parents need to check and change settings if so.



## Contact info

30 Hours Childcare/ Tax-Free Childcare helpline:  
Childcare Service Helpline  
**0300 123 4097**  
[tax-free.childcare@hmrc.gsi.gov.uk](mailto:tax-free.childcare@hmrc.gsi.gov.uk)

To help decide what scheme is best for their circumstances, parents can use the [Childcare Calculator](#).



## Universal Credit

The new [welfare benefit](#) replaces six 'legacy' benefits: Child Tax Credit; Housing Benefit; Income Support; income-based Jobseeker's Allowance (JSA); income-related Employment and Support Allowance (ESA) and Working Tax Credit'.

Having just one benefit makes the process for applying and receiving money streamlined and more efficient for claimants.

Universal Credit pays up to 85% of childcare costs, with a monthly limit of £646.35 for 1 child or £1108.04 for 2 or more children.

The government published their guidance for parents who are eligible for Universal Credit and need help with their [childcare costs](#).

**Families with 3 or more children** can now make new claims to Universal Credit.

Families will be entitled to an additional amount for any child born before 6 April 2017.

Universal Credit will not pay for a third or subsequent child born on or after 6 April 2017, unless [special circumstances](#) apply.

Read more about [Universal Credit and families with more than 2 children](#).

## Calling Universal Credit phone lines



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The phone lines for Universal Credit and legacy benefit queries are being updated.

If you need to contact by phone, check the [Universal Credit guide](#) before ringing to ensure you have up to date contact information and advice.

If ringing on behalf of a client, you will need their permission for you to act for them. See [Universal Credit consent and disclosure of information](#).

**Next edition to include:**  
Disability Access Fund

If you no longer want to receive this briefing, please email:  
[alice.warr@hants.gov.uk](mailto:alice.warr@hants.gov.uk)