

# Early Years Entitlement

September 2023

Dear Parents/Carers,

All children are eligible for 15 hours funded childcare from the term after their 3<sup>rd</sup> birthday. Their birthday must fall before the cut-off date in order to receive the funding the following term. These dates are as follows:

31 <sup>st</sup> August	for the September – December Term
31 <sup>st</sup> December	for the January – March Term
31 March	for the April – August Term

The early years education entitlement currently offers 15 hours of early education for 38 weeks of each year to all three and four year old children and the most disadvantaged two year olds in England. The universal offer for all three and four year old's, was extended to 30 hours for children of working parents. Whilst the universal entitlement is focused on supporting child development, the aim of the extension is that additional funded childcare will help families by reducing the cost of childcare and will support parents into work, or to work more hours, should they wish to do so.

Parents need to satisfy the eligibility criteria so please go to the government website [www.childcarechoices.gov.uk](http://www.childcarechoices.gov.uk) for more information and to find out if you are eligible for the extended funding.

Parents claiming the 30 hour funding will be given an 11 digit code. Once you have your code, please pass to the office along with your national insurance number so we can validate it. Your code need to be updated every 3 months, **the code doesn't change**, just the end date.

As a setting, we believe that we are more than fair with the funded sessions we offer and we remain to offer these 5 days a week. An additional service charge is applied to all funded hours. This hourly charge covers the cost of consumables, wipes, drinks, breakfast, snacks, cooked lunches, tea, craft supplies and resources. Funded sessions will be charged at £1.80 per funded hour. Sessions outside the funded hours will be charged at our normal daily rate. Prices are subject to an annual review.

## **Examples**

9-3pm = £10.80

8-6pm = 18.00

8-1pm = £9.00

1-6pm = £9.00

### **Two Year Old Funding Eligibility**

Parents who are in receipt of one of the following may be entitled to 2 year funding:

Income Support

Income based Job Seekers Allowance

Income related Employment and Support Allowance

Support under part 6 of the Immigration and Asylum Act 1999

Tax credit and have an annual income of less than £16,190

The guaranteed element of State Pension Credit

OR

Has a statutory statement of Special Needs or an Education Health & Care Plan

Is currently a Looked After Child e.g. foster care

Is in receipt of Disability Living Allowance

Has left local authority care through Special Guardianship Order, adoption or residence Order.

If your child is eligible for the 2 year old funding, Banes will issue you with a code. Please pass this code, along with your national insurance number, to Katie or Diane in the pre-school office.

### **Parents who receive 2 year funding will be charged the following daily fees:**

8-1pm Lunch Charge £3.00

9-3pm Lunch Charge £3.00

1-6pm Tea Charge £2.00

8-6pm Lunch & Tea Charge £5.00

Please contact us if you would like any further information but we strongly recommend that you visit [www.childcarechoices.gov.uk](http://www.childcarechoices.gov.uk) as this will guide you through the childcare options available to you as a family. It will also guide you through the **Tax Free Childcare** savings that is available for parents. Please see the notes overleaf.

## **Tax Free Childcare**

A lot of parents use the government tax free childcare account as a way to save money on their childcare costs, please see the information below. It is worth looking at the **gov.uk/tax-free-childcare** or **childcarechoices.gov.uk** website for more information.

For every £8 you pay in, the government will automatically add £2, up to the value of £2,000 per child per year (or £4000 for disabled children).

For example, if your childcare costs are £750 per month, you would pay £600 into your childcare account and the government would pay in £150. This would be an annual saving of £1,800 per child.

Please view the step by step guide on [how to use Tax-Free Childcare](#)

You can deposit money into your childcare account using a debit card, but it's quicker by standing order or bank transfer. The government top up automatically and you can use this money when your account shows that the funds are '**available**'.

Use the money in your childcare account, including the government top up, to make one off or regular payments to your childcare provider.

To continue getting the government top-up, you will need to re-confirm your details every 3 months. You will be sent a reminder when you need to do this

### **Am I eligible?**

You, and any partner, must be over 16 and each expect to earn (on average) at least £142 per week (equal to 16 hours at the National Minimum or Living Wage).

If you, or your partner, are on maternity, paternity or adoption leave, or you're unable to work because you are disabled or have caring responsibilities, you could still be eligible.

You **can't** get Tax-Free Childcare if either you, or your partner, each individually expect to earn £100,000 or more.

### **How can I use it?**

You can use Tax-Free Childcare all year round to spend on regulated childcare, such as Childminders, nurseries and before & after-school clubs..

### **You can use Tax-Free Childcare at the same time as:**

15 hours free childcare  
30 hours free childcare

### **You can't use it with:**

Universal Credit  
Tax Credits

<https://www.childcarechoices.gov.uk/>

<https://www.gov.uk/tax-free-childcare>