

30 hours free early education and childcare Monthly update Issue no. 2 - April 2017

What is 30 hours free early education and childcare?

All 3 and 4 year olds are entitled to 15 hours of free early education.

From September 2017 there will be an additional 15 hours of free childcare available for families that meet the Government's eligibility criteria

This issue covers

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Who is eligible?¹

- Both parents, or sole parent in a lone parent family, must be working and expect to earn (on average) at least £120 a week for each parent over 25 years old or £112.80 a week for each parent between 21 and 24 years old (equal to 16 hours at the National Minimum or Living Wage) and earn less than £100,000 a year.
- Only HMRC can decide if a family is eligible so parents must apply for the additional hours through the on-line childcare service
www.childcare.tax.service.gov.uk/

Out of school clubs – opportunities for partnership working

There is likely to be an increase in demand for childcare provision which meets the needs of working families and out of school clubs can offer much needed supply to meet this expected new demand. Any provider on the Ofsted Early Years Register (unless Ofsted rated Inadequate) can register with the local authority to offer 30 hours free early education and childcare, this includes out of school clubs. Out of school providers may wish to work in partnership with other childcare providers to offer 30 hours free childcare.

- More information about how out of school clubs can get involved can be found here <http://www.kirklees.gov.uk/beta/working-with-children/pdf/childcare-providers/out-of-school-briefing.pdf>

¹ https://www.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/600592/30_hours_free_childcare_eligibility.pdf

30 hours early education and childcare events

Briefing session to share the latest information and updates on the 30 hours entitlement and explore opportunities for partnership working.

Audience – who should attend (but not limited to): Childminders, Early Years Settings - Manager/Owner, Chair, Treasurer, Out of School Clubs, SENCO's, Schools with Nursery Provision – Head Teacher, School Business Manager (2 places available per setting)

If you wish to attend an event please choose from the following list, it is important that you book on to the event located nearest to your provision.

Almondbury Community School	Monday 24th April 2017	6.30 - 8.30pm
Heckmondwike Primary School	Tuesday 25th April 2017	6.30 - 8.30pm
Rowley Lane J, I & N School	Tuesday 25th April 2017	6.30 - 8.30pm
Honley High School (Room A3)	Wednesday 26th April 2017	6.30 - 8.30pm
Battyeford CE Primary School	Wednesday 26th April 2017	6.30 - 8.30pm
Howard Park Community School	Thursday 27th April 2017	6.30 - 8.30pm
Shaw Cross Infant & Nursery School	Thursday 27th April 2017	7.30 - 9.30pm
Slaithwaite J & I School	Tuesday 2nd May 2017	6.30 - 8.30pm
Oak CE Primary School, Crosland Moor	Tuesday 2nd May 2017	6.30 - 8.30pm
Lindley CE Infant School	Tuesday 9th May 2017	6.30 - 8.30pm
St John's CE Infant School, Dewsbury	Wednesday 3rd May 2017	6.30 - 8.30pm
St Aidan's CE Academy	Thursday 4th May 2017	6.30 - 8.30pm
Hillside Primary School	Monday 8th May 2017	6.30 - 8.30pm
Field Lane J I & N School	Wednesday 10th May 2017	6.30 - 8.30pm
Holmfirth High School, Room E7M	Tuesday 9th May 2017	6.30 - 8.30pm
The following venues, dates and times to be confirmed at a later date and will be entered on Eventbrite as they become available		
Dewsbury South	To be confirmed	To be confirmed
Royds Hall Community School	To be confirmed	To be confirmed
North Huddersfield Trust	To be confirmed	To be confirmed
Nether Hall Learning Campus	To be confirmed	To be confirmed

The event is free – places are available on a first come first served basis, to book your place, please [click here](#)

Childcare Choices parents' website

A new website to inform parents about childcare support, including Tax Free Childcare and 30 hours www.childcarechoices.gov.uk/. A range of publicity materials including a poster and information sheet is available to download <http://transfer.23red.com/public/files/3u9w-dpg75rto>

Charging

The Statutory Guidance² dated March 2017 which comes into effect from 1st September 2017 states: Local authorities **should**:

A1.20 Ensure that providers are aware that they can charge for meals and snacks as part of a free entitlement place and that they can also charge for consumables such as nappies or sun cream and for services such as trips and yoga. These charges must be voluntary for the parent. Where parents are unable or unwilling to pay for meals and consumables, providers who choose to offer the free entitlements are responsible for setting their own policy on how to respond, with options including waiving or reducing the cost of meals and snacks, or allowing parents to supply their own meals.

Are you meeting the needs of working parents?

The new Statutory Guidance also states that “providers work with parents to ensure parents understand which hours/sessions can be taken as free provision..... providers should work with parents to ensure that as far as possible the pattern of hours are convenient for parents’ working hours (A1.26)².”

It is good to keep parents informed of how your setting will offer 30 hours and promote as early as possible any changes you are proposing so that parents can make informed choices of whether these changes will meet their needs.

Capacity

Check floor space – does the area allow for more children? Providers must allow 2.3 sq metres for each 3-5 year old (Statutory Framework³, section.3.57). Ofsted no longer registers a setting to take a specific number of children, but settings must comply with these space requirements.

2

https://www.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/596460/early_education_and_childcare_statutory_guidance_2017.pdf

3

https://www.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/596629/EYFS_STATUTORY_FRAMEWORK_2017.pdf

Important information about Tax-Free Childcare

Charitable settings

HMRC have confirmed that all childcare providers who wish to enrol in the Tax-Free Childcare scheme will need a Unique Tax-payer Reference (UTR).

HMRC are currently in the process of writing to every charitable setting who has previously contacted the childcare service helpline regarding this issue to provide them with a UTR so they can sign up to the scheme ahead of the roll out.

If you are a charitable setting who has not yet received a UTR, you need to contact the childcare service helpline on **0300 123 4097** to request one.

New settings

If you've recently registered, an invite will be automatically generated by HMRC – if you do not receive your invite please contact the childcare service helpline on **0300 123 4097**
