

# Services for Young Children

Parents/Carers Update January 2024

Included this month: New childcare offers starting in 2024, Care for the Family support, Money Helper

## New childcare offers starting in 2024



- From April 2024, working parents of two-year-olds will be able to access 15 hours of free childcare
- From September 2024, 15 hours of free childcare will be extended down to the age of nine months for working parents
- From September 2025, working parents of children aged nine months and upwards will be entitled to 30 hours free childcare per week right up to their child starting school
- Like the existing offer, depending on the provider, these hours can be used over 38 weeks of the year (during school term time), or up to 52 weeks.

From 2 January 2024 **eligible working parents with a child who turns two before 31 March**, can apply for 15 hours funded childcare per week to start in April 2024.

Parents will be able to apply for the 15 hours by visiting the government website: [Apply for free childcare if you're working - GOV.UK \(www.gov.uk\)](https://www.gov.uk). It is recommended to do so between **mid-January and the end of February** to get the funding code in good time and avoid having to renew registration ahead of the start of the offer in April.

## Care for the Family

*Care for the Family* provides a wide range of support in three key areas of family life: marriage, parenting and bereavement. This includes marriage and parenting courses, bereavement support, family breaks and faith in the family, as well as a wide range of resources in support of each of these core areas.



For further details, including the *Playtime National Conference*, visit [Home - Care for the Family](#)



## Have you heard of Money Helper?

The Government's Money & Pensions Service Money Helper website has been set up to make money and pension choices clearer. It is designed to cut through the complexity, explain what you need to do and how you can do it. It provides free, impartial guidance that's backed by government, and can recommend further, trusted support if needed.

It covers a range of topics: benefits, everyday money, family & care, homes, money troubles, pensions & retirement, savings and work.

There are also online tools to help explain things clearer and plan. Please explore this service through the following link: <https://www.moneyhelper.org.uk/>