

Services for Young Children

Parents/ Carers Update May 2025

Included this month: Early Years Skills Bootcamps, warm weather ticks and viruses, starting reception/ moving to a new junior school, Money Helper



Skills Bootcamps are marching their way to you!

Hampshire County Council have been awarded funding from the Department for Education to deliver several sector-based Skills Bootcamps for Hampshire residents. Among the 'camps' there is an Early Years one, for people looking to start or change their career. Participants will be able to access a funded course to provide training and skills to prepare them for a role in either an early years or childcare setting, or to become a childminder.

The next bootcamp is happening in **Southampton**, starting on the 2 June, with another camp in **Eastleigh**, starting on 8 September.

For more information or to book onto the Skills Bootcamps, please contact Itchen College on 02380 435636 or email courses@itchen.ac.uk. <https://www.hants.gov.uk/business/skillsbootcamp>

Warmer weather... watch out, ticks are about!

Always check your body for any signs of ticks at the end of a day in the countryside, and if you do find any ticks feeding, remove the tick promptly with tweezers, clean the bite site with an antiseptic wipe and watch for any symptoms of Lyme disease, remembering to consult your GP if you feel unwell. The infection can be serious if not treated.

The [three-minute video](#) will give you details on how to remove the tick and things to look out for. NHS [Lyme disease](#) information.



Also, don't forget to check your child's **Measles, Mumps and Rubella (MMR)** vaccine status: [NHS website](#). These viruses can thrive more in the warmer weather.



Starting reception or moving to a new junior school

Hampshire County Council Education Catering take food allergies seriously. So, it's important parents and carers register their child on the allergen portal before they start reception school, or year 3 if they are moving to a new junior* school. The Council need them to register so they can plan their special diet menu before September. *If your child isn't already registered.

Find out more about the special diet portal that provides transparency to parents as well schools and our catering team here <https://bit.ly/3UjXx5M>

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. <https://www.moneyhelper.org.uk/>

