

# Services for Young Children

## Parents/Carers Update December 2023

Included this month: Accessing 30 hours childcare or Tax-Free Childcare, Time for a new career?, Universal Credit help with childcare costs, Solihull Approach child development courses



### Important! Accessing 30 hours childcare or Tax-Free Childcare, or wanting to apply to start in January 2024?

If your child is receiving 30 hours childcare or Tax-Free Childcare make sure you re-confirm your information; or apply for the funding **before the 31 December 2023** to ensure that your child receives their entitlement with no gaps or delays from January 2024. To re-confirm\* or apply, visit: <https://www.childcarechoices.gov.uk/>

\*Parents who already access the funding must check their childcare account to re-confirm.

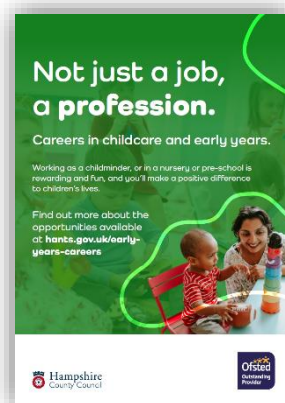
### Time for a new career?

Do you enjoy spending time with children? Would you like to be self-employed and have a professional career?

In Hampshire we need **Ofsted registered childminders** to help support children's development and learning, as well as provide a nurturing environment for children and young people to thrive. There is also a [childminder start up grant](#) to help set up your business.

You will need many qualities: being in a jungle, surviving on a desert island or training to join an elite squad has no comparison!

Up for the challenge and want to [know more](#), book here for the next information session: [Spring 2024 'Becoming a Registered Hampshire Childminder' info session Tickets, Tue 16 Jan 2024 at 19:00 | Eventbrite](#)



### Universal Credit help with childcare costs has increased



The Department for Work and Pensions have raised the amount that parents can claim back monthly for their childcare costs on Universal Credit of up to £951 for one child and £1,630 for two or more children.

The Government will help eligible parents cover the costs for the first month's childcare when they enter work or significantly increase their hours. Those parents will also receive up to 85% of their childcare costs back before their next month's bills are due – meaning they should have money to pay one month in advance going forward. Parents should contact their Work Coach for further information and accessing the support.

Parents and carers in Hampshire can access **free online courses** to help build their confidence and better understand the behaviour, development and mental health of their child or young person. The **'Solihull Approach'** courses have been specially designed by psychologists and professionals and tailored to different ages and stages of a child's development - from pregnancy to teen years and beyond. Through a series of interactive sessions, the courses provide advice and practical tips aimed at anyone caring for a child or young person, including parents, guardians, foster carers and grandparents. For further details: [The Solihull Approach | Health and social care | Hampshire County Council \(hants.gov.uk\)](#)

### UNDERSTANDING YOUR CHILD



### SOLIHULL APPROACH