

# Services for Young Children

## Parents/Carers Update March 2024

Included this month: New childcare offers starting in 2024, 30 hours and Tax-Free Childcare, Time for a new career, Marriage Allowance

### 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. 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.

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

Parents can apply for the 15 hours by visiting [Apply for free childcare if you're working - GOV.UK \(www.gov.uk\)](https://www.gov.uk/apply-for-free-childcare-if-youre-working).

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 March 2024** to ensure that your child receives their entitlement with no gaps or delays from April 2024: <https://www.childcarechoices.gov.uk/>

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



### Marriage Allowance – couples can save up to £252 a year on their tax bill



Some couples can save up to £252 a year on their tax bill by claiming Marriage Allowance. To benefit from Marriage Allowance, the following circumstances must apply:

- the couple are married or in a civil partnership,
- one person does not pay Income Tax because any income they have is below their tax-free Personal Allowance (usually £12,570),
- their partner pays Income Tax at the basic rate.

To find out more and apply for Marriage Allowance on [GOV.UK](https://gov.uk) and use the free [online calculator](#) to find out how much tax could be saved.