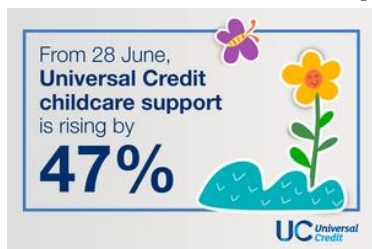


Services for Young Children

Parents/ Carers Update July 2023

Included this month: Universal Credit childcare costs support, summer holidays on a budget, starting school lunch options, apply or re-confirm now - 30 hours childcare and Tax-Free Childcare

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. This is a rise of 47% from the previous limits of £646 for one child or £1,108 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.

Care for the Family – Six ways for single parents to enjoy summer on a budget

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.



Check out some ideas to help enjoy the summer holiday: [Six ways for single parents to enjoy summer on a budget - Care for the Family](#)

Children starting school in September – School lunch options and wider support



School meals are a fantastic opportunity for children to get together and share the experience of trying new foods. Knowing that that children have having a healthy, delicious and sustainably cooked meal every day, is one less thing for parents to worry about.

Find out more here about what is on offer - the Year R starter guide is very informative. [Save money with school lunches | Hampshire County Council \(hants.gov.uk\)](#)

Families on low incomes may also benefit from the Pupil Premium: [Primary Schools and Nurseries | Hampshire County Council \(hants.gov.uk\)](#)

Have an older child/ young person? Check out if your family is eligible for Free Schools Meals: [Free school meals | Hampshire County Council \(hants.gov.uk\)](#)

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

If your child is receiving 30 hours childcare or Tax-Free Childcare, or you are applying for the first time; make sure you re-confirm your information or apply **before the 31 August 2023** to ensure that your child receives their entitlement with no gaps or delays from September 2023.

To re-confirm or apply, visit: <https://www.childcarechoices.gov.uk/>

