



Timothy Hackworth Primary School
Byerley Road
Newton Aycliffe
Co. Durham
DL4 1HN

17 June 2022

Dear Parent/Carer

FREE play and learn for 2 year-olds

Your 2 year-old may be entitled to free childcare from the term after their second birthday at 'Play and Learn' sessions. These can be accessed at Ofsted registered day nurseries, pre-schools, childminders, or some schools. If you qualify, your child will receive 15 hours a week (term-time only), or 11 hours a week (50 weeks a year).

You may be eligible if you meet the criteria on the back of this letter. You can do a quick and easy check on our parent portal. You can access this at www.durham.gov.uk/playandlearn or by scanning the QR code below.

If you are eligible, you will be given a code to take to your chosen childcare provider. You will need to discuss availability of places and a possible start date.

If you don't know where you would like your child to go, or your first choice has no availability please visit www.countydurhamfamilies.info to search for providers within your area.

If you don't have internet access or if you experience problems finding childcare contact Families Information Service on 03000 26 99 95.

Regards

Childcare Places
Early Years Team



Childcare Improvement, Places and Grants Team
Education Durham, Children and Young People's Services
Green Lane, Spennymoor, DL16 6JQ
Telephone: 03000 268 913
Email: childcare@durham.gov.uk





Is your child eligible?

You can apply for a place if you receive one of the following:

- Income Support
- Income-based Jobseeker's Allowance (JSA)
- Income-related Employment and Support Allowance (ESA)
- Universal Credit - if you and your partner have a combined income from work of less than £15,400 a year after tax
- Tax credits and you have an annual income of under £16,190 before tax
- The guaranteed element of State Pension Credit
- Support through part six of the Immigration and Asylum Act
- The Working Tax Credit 4-week run on (the payment you get when you stop qualifying for Working Tax Credit)

Your child will also qualify if they:

- are looked after by the council
- have a current statement of special educational needs or an education, health and care (EHC) plan
- they get Disability Living Allowance
- have left care under a special guardianship order, child arrangements order or adoption order

but we will also need some additional evidence, such as a DLA letter. Please contact us for more information.

If you're a non-European Economic Area (EEA) citizen who cannot claim benefits

Your 2-year-old may get free childcare if you are getting support under the immigration and Asylum Act and have either:

- claimed asylum in the UK and are waiting for a decision (known as 'part 6')
- been refused asylum in the UK (known as 'section 4')

A 2-year-old you care for may also get free childcare if your household income is £15,400 a year or less after tax, and you have any of the following:

- leave to remain with 'no recourse to public funds' on family or private life grounds
- support from your local council because you have 'a child in need', for example they have a disability or a child protection plan
- the right to live in the UK because you're the main carer of a British citizen (known as a 'Zambrano Carer')

Please contact us for more information.