



June Update

30 Hours Childcare for 3 and 4 Year Olds



Online eligibility checking service for parents:

The 30 hour checking service is now live: www.childcarechoices.gov.uk

Parents can follow the above link to complete their eligibility check for both the 30 hours funded childcare and to open a tax-free childcare account. So far we have had 627 successful 30 hour applications in Cheshire West and Chester, this is fantastic and I would like to thank all of you who have encouraged parents to complete their check. I know that some parents have found it a bit of a challenge to get the application completed and there have been intermittent problems with the application process. As the check is completed by HMRC we are unable to access any information about a parents application, therefore if you have any parents who do have a problem there is now a dedicated Customer Interaction Centre that they can contact at **HMRC** on: **0300 123 4097**.

Thank you to all of you who have sent back your registration form for 30 hours. We are currently in the process of putting the eligibility checking software into place and you will receive an invite to load the software in the coming weeks. If you have not yet completed your registration form there is still time and you can return it to: lesley.sykes@chesirewestandchester.gov.uk

Quick reminders:

When starting their 30 hour application, all parents need to click on 'No' when asked, 'Were you invited to use this service?'

A child must be at least **2 years and 39 weeks** of age before a parent can complete their 30 hour eligibility check. If a child is younger than this the parent will only be able to open a tax-free childcare account and this could result in any tax credits that they receive stopping with immediate effect.

When a parent brings you an eligibility code for 30 hours you will need to collect the following information from the parent:

- Child's full name and date of birth
- The 11 digit eligibility code
- The National Insurance number of the parent who made the application, or the National Insurance number of the partner included in the eligibility checking process
- The child's postcode

I know that some parents have asked why they need to provide this information. It is needed so that you can verify the code and ensure it is a match to the child the application was made for. Verification must be completed before a child can take up a place.

If you have any queries or feel that you need further support around delivery models for 30 hours please contact Nicola White on: **01244 977746**



Following on from the success of the 30 hour briefing sessions we will be confirming dates for the next set of briefings late June/ early July. These will cover operational aspects of the 30 hours funded childcare, share case studies and learning from the early implementer/innovator projects, and parental demand data etc.