

Early years provider update email

6 July 2018

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FEEE

FEEE Payments

The summer term adjustment payment and the autumn term initial payment will be made by the 13th July. The adjustment payments will have a breakdown report which will be accessible in your portal.

Please also be reminded that we will only pay for late amendments that have occurred after the adjustment deadline date. For example; New starters who join after the deadline date or reduce/increase in hours started after the deadline date.

We will only pay for mistakes/changes that have been made at headcount which are claimed for on the adjustment task.

30 hours free childcare – managing the autumn term deadline

We are encouraging parents who want to take up a 30 hours place in the autumn term to **apply now**, to get their code in good time. HMRC sometimes needs more information from the parent to check whether they're eligible, so parents should allow time for this.

We would also be grateful if you could continue to remind parents who already have an eligibility code to reconfirm their eligibility for 30 hours and / or Tax-Free Childcare every 3 months. We had over 400 parent's not re-confirming eligibility last term.

To be eligible for the autumn term 30 hours:

By the 31st August a child will need to be at least three years old and have a DERN to be eligible for 30 hours.

We have had many instances of non-eligibility where either, providers are claiming for children with a DERN who are still two years old or, a child is in the term after their third birthday but their DERN was obtained after the term had started, or the child is three in the current term and obtained a DERN but not able to claim until the following term.

The payments calendar for the autumn term is available [here](#).

Please also note that the HMRC childcare service helpline is now offering temporary 30 hours codes, in preparation for autumn term, to support eligible parents who are experiencing ongoing technical issues with the online application. Parents can contact the helpline on 0300 123 4097, who will check eligibility and provide them with a code if they qualify for 30 hours. These codes need to be validated via the 30 Hours validation section of the portal as a new check in the same way as standard codes and they begin with '11' opposed to the '500'.

Also a reminder that if a parent rechecks during the term and is no longer eligible, they can continue to access the 30 hours until the end of the grace period. This grace period will be recorded on the 30 hours expiration dashboard together with valid from and eligible to dates.

Promoting to parents

We have developed a couple of posters for providers to display / send to your parents. [The help with childcare poster](#) shows all the different schemes to help with childcare costs. [The Tax Free Childcare poster](#) gives information on this scheme.

Training

Autumn Training Courses Launched

All courses for the Autumn term are now located on our new platform [Eventbrite](#).

To book a course you just need to click on the [Eventbrite](#) link to see a list of courses (in date order) available through our service. Each course has a description of what the course will cover, time and date, venue address and map.

You can book multiple delegates (up to 5) onto one course at a time. The booking form will request the name and details of each delegate you are booking on. These are the details that will appear on the course register. You can 'log in' and change the details of each delegate at any time prior to the course taking place. Additionally Eventbrite allows you to save some of your booking/payment details; reducing the volume of information you need to enter each time. You will have a limited time of 15 minutes to complete your Eventbrite Course Booking.

Once booked and paid for you will receive an email for each course with all details you need. Please keep this as proof of the event and bring it with you to the training course. Currently the confirmations are 'generic', we are now working hard to personalise these; making them more relevant to each course.

Reduced prices held!

We are delighted to inform providers that, until the 2019 financial year, we will be holding down the reduced prices introduced for the summer term. These prices are:

Customer Type	Full Day Training	Half Day Training
Leicestershire Early Years Providers registered to take 1-8 children	£15 (was £20)	£10 (was £15)
Leicestershire Early Years Providers registered to take 9-30 children	£25 (was £35)	£15 (was £25)
Leicestershire Early Years Providers registered to take 31 or more children	£35 (was £45)	£20 (was £30)

Full day safeguarding courses are charged at £45 and refreshers £20 for Leicestershire Providers. If you have a training enquiry please email our new training address eytraining@leics.gov.uk

Partner Training

Study for a Foundation Degree in Early Childhood with University of Warwick

The course is delivered one evening per week and six Saturdays per year enabling you to continue in your full or part time employment.

Apply for a 'Tuition Fee Loan' and pay nothing back unless you earn over £25,000.

The University of Warwick offer both the Early Childhood Foundation Degree and BA Hons Early Childhood Degree at the University of Warwick and their partner colleges which include, **North Warwickshire & Hinckley College and South Leicestershire College**.

Places are still available to start in September 2018, applications and interviews for places will take place throughout the summer.

Please refer to the [attached flyer](#) for more information and to apply.

Safeguarding

During this busy transition period from preschool to school, you may have concerns about what information you are allowed to share with school.

Guidance is in the [Working Together to Safeguard Children document 2015](#) from page 16 onwards, and also from the page 19 onwards in the new [Working Together to Safeguard Children document 2018](#) version.

Competency Framework

The New Streamlined Competency Framework is here and ready for you to use!
Briefings and updates can be booked onto through EventBright just [here](#)

How safe are our children? 2018

The NSPCC has published How safe are our children? 2018 which compiles and analyses the most robust and up-to-date child protection data that exists across the four nations in the UK. Click [here](#) to read the full article on the NSPCC Website.

Government Guidance for DBS Referrals and GDPR

The government have published guidance for providers to help with understanding data protection issues when referring a person to the Disclosure and Barring Service (DBS). Follow this [link](#) to read.

Keeping Children Safe in Education Update:

This document, primarily for schools and colleges, has been updated. However, as Early Years providers, it is a useful read to help update policies and procedures in terms of partnership working. The document can be found [here](#).

Working Together to Safeguard Children Draft

This document is currently out for consultation but the draft copy can be read [here](#).

Improving parenting skills for parents with a drug or alcohol problem

The NSPCC's Impact and evidence insights series features a blog by Professor Jane Barlow and research fellow Sukhdev Semi from the University of Warwick discussing parents' experiences of taking part in the NSPCC Parents Under Pressure programme to support families where parents have a drug or alcohol problem.

The full consultation can be read [here](#).

Local News

Children Missing Education

A reminder for all early years providers! As transitions are very much in our minds at the moment, please remember our **Best practice guidance for Children Missing Education (CME) in the Early Years** has a section specifically focused on **transition to the reception year in school**. This is a key time for ensuring children are not absent/missing from education and we need all providers/practitioners to be vigilant.

Guidance for early years providers can be found [here](#)

Guidance for schools can be found [here](#)

Summer Reading Challenge 2018 – Mischief Makers

Read more information [here](#).

The Child's Voice

This resource, produced jointly by Mencap and The Challenging Behaviour Foundation, explores the methods to actively seek children's views and wishes of children with a learning disability and signposts to practical tools support you in your practice.

National News

Ofsted's Chief Inspector discussed the importance of the early years and developing a love of reading at the 2018 Pre-school Learning Alliance conference - [Speech: Amanda Spielman at the Pre-school Learning Alliance annual conference](#)

Latest news including the Fortnightly Provider E-Blasts can be found at <https://resources.leicestershire.gov.uk/elc-news>