



Dear Parent

### **30 Hours Extended Entitlement**

All three and four year olds are entitled to up to 15 hours of funded early education or childcare a week, for up to 38 weeks a year, or 570 hours a year if 'stretched'. This is known as the 'universal entitlement'.

The Government doubled this entitlement to 30 hours a week (for up to 38 weeks a year) from 1 September 2017, for some working families. In Somerset, these families can 'stretch' this entitlement to a maximum of 1140 hours a year. This is known as the 'extended entitlement'.

### **Eligibility for the extended entitlement**

Working\* parents of three and four year olds will need to meet the following criteria to be eligible for up to 30 hours a week funded childcare:

- Each earns or expects to earn the equivalent to 16 hours a week at the National Minimum or Living Wage over the coming three months. This equates to £120 a week (or about £6000 a year) for each parent over 25 years old, or £112.80 a week (or about £5800 a year) for each parent between 21 and 24 years old and £56 a week for apprentices in their first year.

This means you don't have to actually work 16 hours a week but earn at least the equivalent of these wage rates.

\*'Working' will include the employed and self-employed, and people on zero-hour contracts, and people away from work due to statutory sick pay, maternity, paternity or adoption leave, and where one parent is working and the other is in receipt of benefits due to caring responsibility or disability.

### **Who will not qualify?**

Families will not meet the criteria when:

- either parent has an income of more than £100,000
- those that are not in paid work
- either parent is a non-EEA national and subject to immigration control (and has no recourse to public funds)

## How do I apply?

You must apply for the extended entitlement hours through [www.childcarechoices.gov.uk](http://www.childcarechoices.gov.uk)

You will need:

- Your National Insurance Number, and your partner's National Insurance Number (if applicable)
- Child's name and date of birth

*If you are eligible, you will receive an 11 digit code to take directly to a participating childcare provider. **Please complete the attached form '30 Hours Extended Entitlement Consent Form' and return to Pre-School as soon as possible to enable us to verify the code with the Local Authority.***

## When can I start using my extended entitlement hours?

The offer begins on 1 September 2017, and you may access a place the funding period after your child becomes 3 years old.

**Please note:** if you become eligible after the start of a funding period, you must wait until the following period to access your extended entitlement place.

The funding periods are:

- Autumn - 1 September to 31 December
- Spring - 1 January to 31 March
- Summer - 1 April to 31 August

## When would my extended entitlement hours stop?

You will be prompted by text, and/or email every 3 months to reconfirm your eligibility details. If you do not reconfirm, or your circumstances change, you will only be able to access the extended entitlement hours for a short time known as a 'Grace Period'.

If the grace period has expired and you have not met the eligibility criteria again, you would only be able to access the universal entitlement (570 hours per year).

Extended entitlement hours will also stop

- When your child reaches compulsory school age
- When your child attends a reception place in a maintained school or academy

Yours sincerely



Katy Morey  
Business Manager

Trull Saplings Preschool  
Trull Church Community Centre  
Church Road, Trull,  
Taunton, Somerset  
TA3 7JZ

Email: [info@trullpreschool.co.uk](mailto:info@trullpreschool.co.uk)  
Email: [committee@trullpreschool.co.uk](mailto:committee@trullpreschool.co.uk)  
Tel: 01823 334774

Registered Charity Number: 1018745