

## Next Steps

Some of you will already be working across settings to provide families with wraparound childcare and we will be keen to see how this works, your successes and challenges.

We hope to have a Project Officer in post shortly who will be communicating regularly with all childcare providers keeping you up to date with changes and progress over the next year. We will also be contacting you seeking expressions of interest in delivering the 30 hours to ensure we have sufficient places to offer families across the borough.

Whilst funding for places will not be available until the scheme is implemented nationally, the Council will be working with childcare providers across the borough and the Department for Education over the coming year to develop the offer so that parents are able to access local childcare that fits with their personal working patterns and hours. The extended entitlement will mean that parents can be more flexible with their working hours, could increase their hours and may be able to have childcare over holiday periods.



### Accessing Cheshire West and Chester Council information and services

Council information is also available in Audio, Braille, Large Print or other formats. If you would like a copy in a different format, in another language or require a BSL interpreter, please email us at [equalities@cheshirewestandchester.gov.uk](mailto:equalities@cheshirewestandchester.gov.uk)

إذا أردت المعلومات بلغة أخرى أو بطريقة أخرى، نرجو أن تطلب ذلك منا.

যদি আপনি এই ডকুমেন্ট অন্য ভাষায় বা ফরমেটে চান, তাহলে দয়া করে আমাদেরকে বলেন।

Pokud byste požadovali informace v jiném jazyce nebo formátu, kontaktujte nás

Jeżeli chcieliby Państwo uzyskać informacje w innym języku lub w innym formacie, prosimy dać nam znać.

ਜੇ ਇਹ ਜਾਣਕਾਰੀ ਤੁਹਾਨੂੰ ਕਿਸੇ ਹੋਰ ਭਾਸ਼ਾ ਵਿਚ ਜਾਂ ਕਿਸੇ ਹੋਰ ਰੂਪ ਵਿਚ ਚਾਹੀਦੀ, ਤਾਂ ਇਹ ਸਾਥੋਂ 'ਮਿਤਾ ਲਓ।

如欲索取以另一語文印製或另一格式製作的資料，請與我們聯絡。

Türkçe bilgi almak istiyorsanız, bize başvurabilirsiniz.

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Cheshire West &  
Chester Council



# 30 hour Extended Childcare Provider Information

By now you will have heard about the national initiative to increase the number of **free hours** of childcare available to some working families across the country from **15 hours a week to 30.**



 Cheshire West  
and Chester

## Current eligibility criteria for the 'extended entitlement' is that;

- both parents are working (or the sole parent is working in a lone parent family)
- each parent earns, on average, a weekly minimum equivalent to 16 hours at national
- minimum wage (NMW) or national living wage (NLW);
- and less than £100,000 per year.

Foster carers are not eligible for the extended entitlement for the children that they foster.

Working includes employed persons, self-employed persons and parents on zero hours contracts who meet the criteria.

It is proposed that the 'extended entitlement' will continue to be offered to families where the criteria would be met but where one parent was not in work as a result of parental leave, maternity/paternity leave, adoption leave, statutory sick pay or that one parent was in receipt of specific benefits for caring responsibilities or a disability.

## Innovator Authority

Cheshire West and Chester Council has been successful in becoming one of a number of Innovator authorities across the country tasked with testing aspects of the scheme to ensure that the rollout runs smoothly for families. Although we are unable to fund childcare places before September 2017 funding from the Government will allow us to work over the next 12 months to develop two or three Community Childcare and Early Learning Hubs with the flexibility within the community to respond to the varying childcare needs of local families.

## Community Childcare and Early Learning Hubs

**Why do we need Hubs?** Childcare Hubs are a solution to the limited availability of high quality, flexible childcare and early education that many parents face. Originally piloted by 4Children on behalf of DfE around the country, they bring together different kinds of childcare for children 0 – 11 in one local area to offer a blended range of options for parents that are flexible, co-ordinated and high quality in a 'community childcare and early learning hub'.

## Childcare Hubs offer:

- One stop hub of information for parents to find out about and access childcare in their local community.
- A choice of coordinated childcare each week including nursery, childminders and out of school care blended to suit the families' needs that week.
- A guarantee of high quality with all providers benefiting from training and support

## Benefits of the Hub Approach:

- Communities able to offer "Blended" childcare for families
- Flexible, consistent, quality childcare for parents
- Accessible, localised childcare information
- Improved training and CPD for childcare sector
- Improved business/relationships
- Effective transition between settings for children
- Improved local employment opportunities

