



December 2018

Welcome

Welcome to the latest edition of “2,3,4!”.

As we approach the end of term, we would like to thank all providers for working hard to provide children in Newham with high quality early education and positive learning experiences. We hugely value everyone’s continued commitment to improve the life chances of our most vulnerable two year olds and for facilitating 30 hours places for working parents.

We hope everyone enjoys the festive period. The Best Start in Life Team would like to wish one and all a very happy Christmas and happy holidays, and all the very best for the new year ahead.

Help with childcare costs

Since the launch of 30 hours and Tax-Free Childcare there has been feedback that parents are not always sure how the government’s childcare offers can be used together. To help clarify this DfE and HMRC have worked together to produce a one-page Childcare Overview that sets out all the government’s childcare offers for parents, helping them to understand at a

glance what support might be available to them and how the offers interact. This is accessible via the [Childcare Choices Toolkit](#) and we encourage you to share with parents.

Providers can print this poster out and display it in a prominent place in your settings where parents can easily see it. You can also print out for parents who may wish to take a copy away with them or you can email the link to them.



HELP PAYING FOR CHILDCARE

MONEY TOWARDS CHILDCARE

Any **one** of the following schemes...

Age	Claim back up to	For
0-11 <small>Or 16 if disabled</small>	£2000 per child	working families
0-15	85% of costs	working families
0-15 <small>Or 16 if disabled</small>	70% of costs	working families

TAX-FREE CHILDCARE **UNIVERSAL CREDIT** **TAX CREDITS**

... **can** be used with

FREE HOURS OF CHILDCARE

Age	For	Hours
2	families getting certain government support	15 HOURS FREE CHILDCARE
3&4	all families	15 HOURS FREE CHILDCARE
3&4	working families	30 HOURS FREE CHILDCARE

AVAILABLE IN UK

AVAILABLE IN ENGLAND
For offers in Wales, Scotland and Northern Ireland check [childcarechoices.gov.uk](#)
Speak to your provider about any additional charges that may apply

For full details visit

[childcarechoices.gov.uk](#)

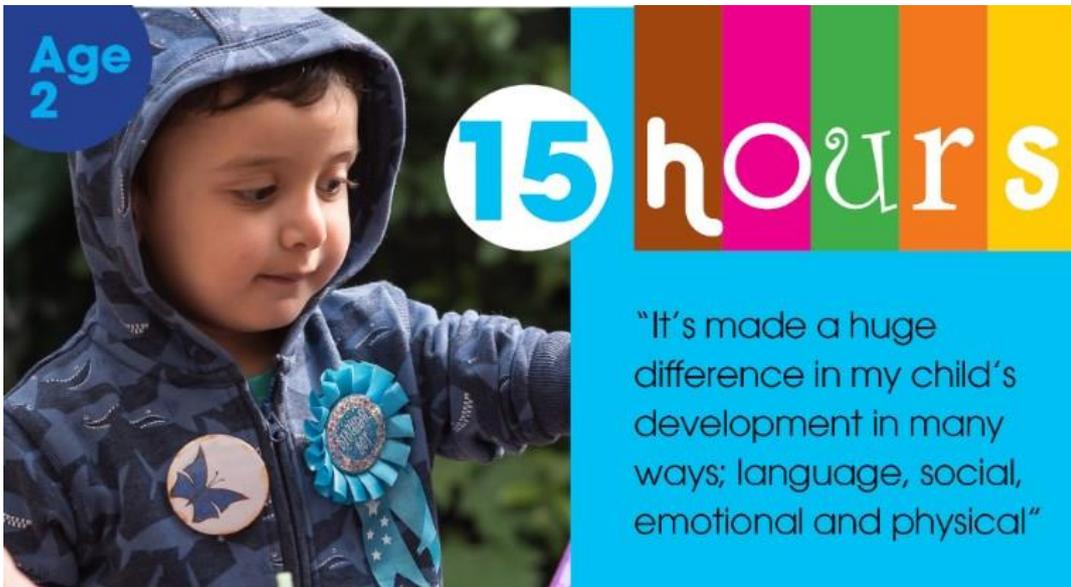
Getting childcare vouchers?

Go to [GOV.UK](#) to find out more

Tax free childcare

Remember that parents can use Tax-Free Childcare alongside their 30 hours. This can be used to help with the cost of charged for hours. With Tax-Free Childcare, for every £8 parents pay into their childcare account, the government will provide a top-up of £2, up to a total of £2,000 per child per year (and up to £4,000 for disabled children). Parents apply via www.childcarechoices.gov.uk – usually done at the same time as the 30 hours application. If your setting has not registered to join this scheme you can at <https://www.gov.uk/guidance/sign-up-to-tax-free-childcare-if-youre-a-childcare-provider>

2 year old entitlement



Age 2

15 hours

“It’s made a huge difference in my child’s development in many ways; language, social, emotional and physical”

Two year old take-up on the up!

We are delighted to report that numbers of two year olds taking up the 15 hours funded entitlement has increased. The autumn term headcount showed that 1,501 children have taken up places which means take up now stands at 66.3% - an increase of 8.8% from the summer term. This shows

that everyone's efforts in driving this forward and promoting the entitlement to families is working. We will continue this work into the new year and beyond to ensure that the upward trend continues and we get as many eligible families as possible to take up the offer to benefit their children.

We would like to extend a special thanks to our early Education Practitioners, known as our EEPs, who are based in our Children's Centres, and who work very hard in following up with our eligible families in Newham to ensure that no-one misses out on the two year old entitlement.

I am 2 Golden Ticket - Gone Live!

A reminder to all providers that there are **three ways** in which parents can claim a 15 hours place:

1. **Eligibility Certificate** obtained via an [online eligibility check](#) on the Newham Council website. Provider to keep eligibility certificate for records.
2. **Golden Ticket** – If a parent receives a Golden Ticket letter they register their ticket number and details at www.newham.gov.uk/goldenticket - no further eligibility check required. Provider to keep registration certificate for records. **Please note that a QR code has been added to the Golden Ticket letter.** This enables parents to use a QR reader app on a mobile phone or tablet to scan the code to automatically open up the registration form.
3. **Manual Approval** – a letter issued directly by the Best Start in Life Team in special circumstances or when a parent has provided evidence of eligibility. Provider to keep letter for records.

[Provider Guidance: 15 hours for two year olds - CLICK HERE](#)

"Parent Quote"

Mum of Temayah who attends Tamba Day Nursery in Beckton says of the benefits of the two year old entitlement "Temayah's speech is much clearer and she enjoys attending everyday and can't wait to come back after the weekend! She can communicate her feelings and emotions. She expresses her interests much more and her social skills are enhanced. She has progressed so quickly!"

Farhana Akhter, Nursery Manager added "we are involved in the two year old scheme to provide early education and give children opportunities to play, explore and develop their learning".

30 hours entitlement



Age
3-4

30 hours

Free childcare
for 3-4 year olds

Reconfirmation reminder!

Just a reminder for providers to be mindful of any children with grace end dates of 31 December showing on the portal. These children will not be able to continue with 30 hours from January. If parents wish to keep their 30 hours place, they will need to reconfirm or reapply as a matter of urgency before the deadline of 31 December.

For parents who fail to reconfirm in time, their child will lose their 30 hours place. They will however still be able to access the universal 15 hours for three and four year olds.



30 hours - handy contact details

Childcare Choices helpline: 0300 1234 097

Website: www.childcarechoices.gov.uk

Submitting a complaint: www.gov.uk/complain-about-hmrc

30 hours team at Newham:

020 3373 0980 /

30hourschildcare@newham.gov.uk

Having trouble with the portal?

Email provider.portal@newham.gov.uk with your issues and we will try to resolve as soon as possible.

[Portal Training Dates - CLICK HERE](#)



Handy Hints

Handy hints:

30 hours code 'not found'

Please check: DOB of child recorded on child's record – is it correct?, DOB of guardian, NI number, the actual code – are these correct?. The Eligibility Checking Service matches information - any discrepancy in any of these pieces of information will result in a 'not found' outcome.

All correct? Still 'not found'? – did the parent re-confirm eligibility? Yes? Still not showing? Please give us a call and we will try to assist!



**Season's Greetings and All the Best for 2019
from the Best Start in Life Team!**

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