



CURLEDGE STREET
ACADEMY

Mrs Jessica Humphrey, Headteacher
Curledge Street Academy
Paignton, Devon
TQ4 5BA
T: 01803 557726
F: 01803 664857
E: admin@cs-academy.com
W: www.curledgestreetacademy.org

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Dear Parents and Carers

Childcare Choices, 30 Hour Childcare Funding and Tax-Free Childcare

As part of the Childcare Choices launch, the government is introducing two new offers in 2017 – Tax-Free Childcare, which was introduced on 28 April and gradually rolled out, and 30 hours free childcare (starting in September 2017). Childcare Choices brings together all the government childcare offers for the first time, helping parents find the right childcare support to suit them.

Torbay Council and HMRC have now informed us that the new 30 hours childcare applications systems went live on 28th April. This is a staged roll out according to age. Parents of the youngest children will be able to apply first. There is no timeline provided yet; only an assurance that all 30 hours parents will be able to note their interest and apply from 28th April and then formally apply by July, ready for a September start.

You can either apply for Tax-Free Childcare or 30 hours free childcare or sign into your childcare service account using the link below. It's one single application but they'll check your eligibility for both. You will need to apply for a government gateway account before you can apply for the funding.

In order to do this you will require:

- Your National Insurance number
- Access to a mobile phone or landline
- Details of one or more of the following - UK Passport, tax credits, P60 or a recent payslip

Once the Government Gateway account is setup, you will then need to have the following details to hand to make the application for 30 hours childcare (and Tax Free childcare):

- Your DOB and home address
- Your partner's DOB and home address (where applicable)
- Your own National Insurance number (and if self-employed their UTR)
- Your partner's National Insurance number (and if self-employed their UTR)



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- The date you started or are due to start work
- Income information
- Details of any other government support received

You will have to reconfirm eligibility every 3 months (reminder messages will be sent by HMRC). If you apply now you will have to reconfirm at least once (July/August time) before entitlement starts in September.

Please ensure that you provide us with written consent to validate the 30 hours eligibility code with the Local Authority and to secure a place with us. You can apply at the website address below:

<https://childcare-support.tax.service.gov.uk/par/app/applynow>

When completing the funding application, eligibility criteria are as follows:

- All parents in the household (lone or both) must be in work, as defined below.
- For the purposes of this scheme, 'in work' is defined as being in employment (including self-employed, maternity leave, adoption leave and long term sick leave) and earning (as a minimum) the equivalent of the minimum wage for working 16 hours a week. As an example, the current minimum wage is £7.20 per hour for over 25s, so the minimum weekly income to be eligible would be £7.20 x 16 = £115.20 per week.
- Each parent must earn less than £100,000 per year.
- One parent must be 'in work' if the other receives disability benefit or benefits related to caring responsibilities.

There is now a page on the Torbay Council Website dedicated to 30 Hours Childcare with information for parents:

<http://www.torbay.gov.uk/children-and-families/childcare/30-hours-free-childcare-3-4-year-olds/>

Childcare Choices

The Government has launched their Childcare Choices website. The new Childcare Choices website provides information on the new and existing Government childcare offers: www.childcarechoices.gov.uk.



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Curledge Street Academy availability

At CSA we will be offering the following option for parents eligible for 30 hours:

- 9.00am - 3.15pm Monday to Thursday (6.25 hrs a day) and Friday 9.15 - 2pm (5 hours). In total over the week this will make 30 hours.
- However, if you would like to do 5 days a week 9.00am - 3.15pm you will be able to purchase the extra 1.25hrs on a Friday at a cost of £4.50 per week.
- There is also an option of attending Breakfast Club from 8.00am at a cost of £2.00 including breakfast and £1.50 without breakfast. Please let us know if you intend to use the Breakfast Club as soon as possible so that we can ensure staff ratios are in place. Breakfast is available between 8am & 8.20am.

You will receive further information in necessary time but if you have any further questions please feel free to speak to us or you may contact Torbay Council on 01803 207895.

Yours sincerely

Mrs A Styler
Assistant Headteacher



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30 Hours funding Newsletter (additional information):

As some of you may know the government will be rolling out 30 hours of childcare for some working families in September 2017. There will be no funding until this date.

30 hours of free childcare - will my child get it?

The doubling of free childcare to 30 hours is being rolled out by the government in September. Many working parents of 3-4 year olds in England will be eligible for 30 hours of free childcare - rather than the current 15 hours. Not everyone is eligible for the 30 hours but everyone will still receive 15 hours free childcare that is currently available, this will not change.

Will my child receive 30 hours free childcare?

Eligibility criteria for 30 hours free childcare:

- 1) Your child must be 3 or 4 when the scheme starts in September (or else you will receive it the term after their 3rd birthday).
- 2) Both parents must be working or the sole parent is working in a lone parent family.
- 3) Each parent earns, on average, a weekly minimum equivalent to 16 hours at National Minimum Wage or National Living Wage (currently approx. £107 per week).
- 4) Each parent must have an annual income of less than £100,000.

What if one parent in a couple is not working?

This is basically a scheme to help working parents or will help parents return to work without the burden of childcare costs.

If you are self-employed or on a zero hours contract you will still be eligible as long as you earn the equivalent to 16 hours at the National Minimum Wage.

What if one parent loses their job?

There will be a short 'grace period' allowing parents to have a chance to find new employment.

We hope this helps to give you a basic understanding of the scheme and as soon as we have more information we will let you know.



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