



# Are you entitled to financial support for childcare fees?

**Tel: (01642) 354200**  
and ask for information on  
**Working Families Tax Credit**

# A PARENTS GUIDE to FREE Nursery Education for 3 & 4 year olds in Middlesbrough



**FAMILY INFORMATION SERVICE Middlesbrough**  
Supporting Parents . . . Supporting Families



## We can provide information on:

- Registered childcare
- Child and Working tax credits
- Children's Centres
- After school and holiday care
- Childcare careers and training
- Activities and events for families
- Family Services
- Fostering and Adoption
- Childcare Business Support
- Free Nursery Education for 3 and 4 year olds

**Telephone (01642) 354200**

for FREE confidential information, advice and guidance



## What is the Nursery Education Grant?

The Nursery Education Grant is funding made available to provide your 3 or 4 year old child with a free part time nursery session before they reach statutory school age.

Middlesbrough Council aims to:

- Support parents in accessing quality education for their child;
- Deliver the nursery entitlement flexibly, taking into account the needs of children and families;

## What is my child entitled to?

Your child is entitled to a maximum of 15hrs nursery education for 38 weeks of the academic year. Sessions should be held for a minimum of 2.5 hours a day and a maximum of 10hrs a day. The 15 hours must be taken over a minimum of 3 days. Please see individual registered providers for their terms and conditions.

You could choose to take your grant over two registered providers; this is acceptable as long as the total amount does not exceed 15 hours per week.

## When can my child start receiving the grant?

Your child is entitled to the grant according to the following table:

### Child's birthday

1 April to 31 August

1 September to 31 December

1 January to 31 March

### Eligible for grant

1 September following 3rd birthday

1 January following 3rd birthday

1 April following 3rd birthday

## How do I apply for a nursery place?

It is advisable you contact your preferred provider as soon as possible to ensure a nursery place is available as some providers do hold waiting lists. The Family Information Service (01642 354200) can offer you a list of registered providers including

- Day Nurseries
- Pre-School or Playgroups; and
- School Nurseries

## How do I know the setting is a quality provider?

Every session of free nursery education provided should be of good quality and at least to the standard considered acceptable by OFSTED to deliver nursery education. All settings will have a copy of their latest OFSTED report available for you to read.

## How does the funding work?

Your chosen provider will ask you to bring your child's birth certificate and ask you to sign a declaration form.

They will then claim the Nursery Education Grant on your behalf from the Local Authority.

If you are accessing hours of childcare in excess of the 15 hours you will be charged for this service from the provider.

## What happens if my child needs to move to a different nursery and leaves early?

Your nursery provider will inform the Local Authority on your behalf if your child moves nurseries or leaves early.

## Where can I request more information?

For further information on your child's entitlement please contact:

**Family Information Service**  
**The TAD Centre**  
**Ormesby Road, Middlesbrough**  
**TS3 7SF**  
**Telephone: 01642 354200**

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