Changes to free hours to 3 & 4 year olds

From 1st September 2017, an additional 15 hours free early education entitlement (FEEE) will be available to 3 and 4 Year olds from working families. This is on top of the 15 hrs FEEE open to 3 & 4 and will provide up to of 30 hrs FEEE a week = 11440 hrs across the year for children’s whose families meet the following criteria:

* Both Parents – or sole parent in a single parent family are employed (or self-employed) each earning on average

1. A weekly minimum equivalent to 16 hours at national minimum wage (NMW) or National Living Wage (NLW)
2. Less than £100,000 per year

* Families where one parent does not work (or neither works) will not usually be eligible to for extended entitlement EXCEPT where

1. Both parents are employed but one or both parents is temporarily away from the work place (ie Maternity/Paternity, adoption leave or statutory sick pay
2. One Parent is employed, and one parent has substantial caring responsibilities, or disabled or incapacitated (based on specific benefits)

* If a non- EEA (European Economic Area) national, the parent must have recourse to public funds
* To find out if you are eligible, visit **www.childcarechoices.gov.uk**