

15 hours a week child care - paid for by the government!

Yes! As of September 2009, your child will be entitled to 15 hours per week of child care provided by Chudleigh Pre-school and Rising Fives! As of September 2010, this will be across the country, but the area around Chudleigh pre-school has been selected as being one where this will be introduced earlier. There are guidelines that we have to follow and we will still operate as a *Pre-school* rather than a *nursery*, but this is a fantastic opportunity for you as parents and for us as a pre-school.

What this means for us:

- We will still continue to offer our sessions as 2½ hour sessions, on Monday to Friday mornings at both sites and Monday and Wednesday afternoons at the Town Hall site, with the possibility of some afternoons at the Rising Fives site, should there be sufficient demand.
- Both lunch clubs and extended sessions can now be paid for by the grant funding and included in the 15 hour grant funded week. Please note that we still have to remain financially viable, so should there be insufficient take up of the lunch clubs, they will not run.

Some number crunching that might help you:

A morning session alone or an afternoon session alone = 2½ hours.

A morning session and a lunch club = 3½ hours.

An extended session = 5½ hours.

If it adds up to 15 hours or less, it's FREE!



PLA No: 22478

Registered Charity No: 1028874

What are the implications for parents and their child(ren)?

- * Overall, it means that children are entitled to more free education per week over the 38 week academic year in 2009 – 10 than currently. Please note that we may still not provide the entire 38 week entitlement.
- * It means that parents (and pre-school) will need to have their wits about them in calculating the number of hours their child(ren) attend(s) this pre-school and any other setting.
- * Should parents use more than one child care provider offering the grant and use more than their child(ren)'s 15 hour per week allocation, then they will be required to make up the difference in any outstanding payments above these 15 hours. For our pre-school, parents will be asked to match the grant rate of £3.54 per hour.
- * If you claim the funding with three or more childcare providers, we would ask that you contact us and we can then enquire as to whether you can continue to do so.
- * Parents should not worry, as we intend to continue to ensure that your child(ren) receive(s) the best care and education that we continue to offer. This is just the paperwork and we have every intention of supporting you through this.
- * Please understand that the priority for the session staff and supervisors is to concentrate on providing the best care and education for your children so they will be unable to answer queries about these new arrangements. Our Administrator, Anna Sowden, will be available during Wednesday sessions at the Town Hall to answer queries and can be available during any session for the same, please just leave a message for her at pre-school and she will contact you. There will be an evening meeting organised for next half term.