



FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE INFORMATION SHEET

To show our commitment to making child care as affordable as possible, we have produced this factsheet to provide some basic information about possible ways to assist with the cost of childcare.

FREE EARLY YEARS ENTITLEMENT (FEL) 15 HOURS OR 30 HOURS OF FUNDED CHILDCARE

Is your child aged between three and five? If so, then you are entitled to 15 hours of funded childcare!

- **15 HOURS SCHEME**
- 15 hours free early years care and education for 38 weeks of the year **for all children**
- Entitled to the grant the term after their third birthday

- **30 HOURS SCHEME**
- The government also launched a scheme to increase the hours of funded childcare to 30 hours per week for 38 weeks of the year (or 51 if you want to "stretch" the hours over the year) **if you meet the eligibility criteria.**

Please see our separate factsheets on how the 15/30 hours scheme work at Croft Corner.

CHILDCARE VOUCHERS

Does your employer offer support for childcare through a childcare voucher scheme?

If so, you can take advantage of your statutory entitlement to use between £10 and £243 per month of salary, Tax and National Insurance FREE, to pay towards your childcare costs. The amount you can sacrifice is dependable on your earnings.

We are registered with all of the major voucher scheme providers and so it is very simple to get the scheme up and running.

We understand that childcare voucher schemes will be closed to new entrants from April 2018 . Some parents will be better off with childcare vouchers as opposed to the new Tax Free Childcare scheme.

TAX FREE CHILDCARE

Tax-Free Childcare is a scheme that the Government have launched to provide more support for working parents to help cover childcare costs. Follow this link to find out more information

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

WORKING TAX AND CHILD TAX CREDITS

Working Tax Credits are available to individuals on lower incomes to help with the cost of their childcare. The amount received is dependent on your circumstances and income.

Am I eligible?

- Lone parents must work 16 hours or more per week
- Couples must work 16 hours or more or one partner must work 16 hours or more per week if the other is unable to work for specific reasons

To find out if you are eligible for assistance, you will need to contact the Tax Credit helpline **0845 300 3900** or visit www.taxcredits.hmrc.gov.uk.

CARE TO LEARN (C2L)

C2L provides financial support for teenage parents who want to continue in or return to learning. It helps with the cost of their childcare and travel and will pay up to £160 per child per week

Am I eligible?

- Under 20 years old
- Attending school, sixth form or colleges of further education

More information can be found at www.gov.uk/care-to-learn/overview

CHILDCARE GRANT

A Childcare grant may be available if you are a full-time higher education student with children

It can be:-

- up to £148.75 a week for 1 child
- up to £255 a week for 2 or more children

The grant helps with childcare costs for children under 15, or under 17 if they have special educational needs

More information can be found at www.gov.uk/childcare-grant.