

Services for Young Children

Parents/ Carers Update – April 2026

Included this month: Holiday Activities and Food Programme, Time for a new career, Hampshire SENDIASS workshops, Starting reception/ school readiness, Help to Save scheme

Connect4communities – Holiday Activities and Food Programme



Easter holiday schemes with free activities and meals for thousands of children from families on low incomes across Hampshire are being supported from the [Connect4communities](#) programme.

Parents and carers can find out what is on offer locally through the Family Information and Services Hub directory: <https://www.connecttosupporhampshire.org.uk/family-information-and-services-hub-fish/holiday-activities-and-food-programme-haf/>

Time for a new career?

In Hampshire we need **Ofsted registered childminders** to help support children's development and learning, as well as provide a nurturing environment for children and young people to thrive. As well as being your own boss, you can also employ assistants and apprentices to help expand your business, including providing wraparound care for school age children.

Up for the challenge... want to [know](#) more, and book for the next information session on **21 April 2026**: [Summer 2026 'Becoming a Registered Hampshire Childminder' info session Tickets, Tuesday, Apr 21, 2026 from 7 pm to 9 pm GMT+1 | Eventbrite](#)



Hampshire SENDIASS workshops for parents/ carers

Hampshire SENDIASS run free fortnightly sessions for those responding to a draft EHCP (Education, Health and Care Plan) document, to help meet the critical time frame for replies. Other workshops are held monthly – including those for families considering an EHCP application. Check out their website for further details <https://www.hampshiresendiass.co.uk/workshops/>

Starting reception/ school readiness

Starting reception (or 'School Readiness') sets out the personal, social, emotional and physical skills that most children will develop by the time they start school. The definition has been created to help parents, caregivers, and the early years professionals involved in looking after young children get them ready to start school.

Parents/carers should check out this website for useful information and resources: <https://startingreception.co.uk/>



New Government Savings Scheme – Help to Save

If you are receiving Universal Credit and find that you can put some money aside, the government's new scheme, Help to Save, will pay 50p for every £1 saved, up to a maximum of £50 per month.

Find out more and apply on the government [website](#).