

Services for Young Children

Parents/ Carers Update – September 2022

Included this month: The Wraparound Childcare Scheme, Neonatal Care (Leave and Pay) Bill, Connect4communities, Parent of a 2-year-old?



Military Families to benefit from £3,000 of Childcare Support

Serving personnel across the UK will be entitled to free wraparound childcare from September.

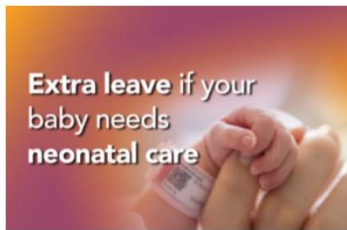
The [Wraparound Childcare \(WAC\) scheme](#) will provide up to 20 hours per week of free childcare before and after school during term time for eligible military parents with children aged 4 to 11 years.

Its roll-out follows successful trials at pilot sites around the country over the last two years and from the Autumn school term will be open to more than 20,000 children across the UK. While childcare costs vary across the UK, serving personnel are expected to save around £3,000 per child per year based on typical costs.

Neonatal Care (Leave and Pay) Bill

Thousands of parents whose babies require specialist care after birth will be able to take additional paid time off work, under new legislation backed by the government.

A baby who is born prematurely or sick will receive neonatal care in hospital or another agreed care setting – often for a prolonged period of time. This can put parents in a difficult position of having to use their existing leave entitlements to be by their baby's side, or worse, having to return to work while their baby is still receiving hospital care.



Extra leave if your baby needs neonatal care

[The Neonatal Care \(Leave and Pay\)](#) The Bill will allow parents to take up to 12 weeks of paid leave, in addition to other leave entitlements such as maternity and paternity leave, so that they can spend more time with their baby at what is a hugely stressful time.

Once in law, neonatal care leave will be available to employees from their first day in a new job and will apply to parents of babies who are admitted into hospital up to the age of 28 days, and who have a continuous stay in hospital of 7 full days or more.



**connect4
communities**

Connect4communities

The connect4communities programme, funded by the Department for Work and Pensions Household Support Fund, aims to support those most in need with significantly rising living costs, particularly families with children and pensioners who would otherwise struggle with energy, food and water bills.

[connect4communities | Children and Families | Hampshire County Council \(hants.gov.uk\)](#)

Parent of a 2-year-old?

Free Early Years Education is available to some 2-year-olds, in nurseries, pre-schools and with childminders.

To check if your child is eligible for the 2-Year-Old funding and to apply, visit:

[Free Early Years Education \(EYE\) funding for eligible 2 year olds | Children and Families | Hampshire County Council \(hants.gov.uk\)](#)

