

Services for Young Children

Parents/Carers Update - October 2023

Included this month: Hitting the Cold Spots, Hampshire SENDIASS, Working Families Flexible Working Bill, Funded Early Years Education for 2, 3 and 4 Years Olds.



Hitting the Cold Spots – help for people struggling to keep their homes warm

Cold homes are not only uncomfortable but can lead to serious health problems in the very young, vulnerable, and elderly.

Open to all Hampshire residents, use the local advice line to access a range of support to help make homes energy efficient.

The Hitting the Cold Spots website also has useful tips and other sources of information: [Hitting the cold spots | Health and social care | Hampshire County Council \(hants.gov.uk\)](#)

Hampshire SENDIASS - Special Educational Needs & Disabilities Information Advice & Support Service

Hampshire SENDIASS offers accurate, up to date and impartial resources and information about the law on special educational needs and disability including:

- Education, health, and social care
- National and local policy
- The Local Offer
- Rights and choices
- Opportunities to participate
- Finding help and advice
- Accessing support



[Hampshire SENDIASS](#) has produced a new information video for parents and professionals to showcase what the service offers and what those accessing the service can expect. The video can be viewed here [About Us | Hampshire SENDIASS](#) or via their social media <https://www.facebook.com/reel/279830244732587>

Working Families

Working Families – Flexible Working Bill

The *Flexible Working Bill* became law in July and from 2024 parents and carers have the right to request flexible working from day one of a job, and the right to request flexible working twice a year. For details see the [Statement from Working Families on the Employment Relations \(Flexible Working\) Bill Receiving Royal Assent - Working Families](#)

Funded Early Years Education for 2-, 3- and 4-Years Olds

Government funded early years education places for [eligible 2-year-olds](#) and [all 3- and 4-year-olds](#) continue to be available. Early years education provides socialisation and support with learning and development for children through play; as well as enabling parents to care for others, study or train, work or volunteer, etc. Visit *Childcare Choices* for more information: <https://www.childcarechoices.gov.uk/>



Other funding such as the *Early Years Pupil Premium*, *Disability Access and SEN Inclusion funding* may be available to support the childcare provider with your child's placement if appropriate. Speak to your childcare provider or contact [Services for Young Children](#).