

Services for Young Children

Parents/ Carers Update – October 2021

Included this month: Starting School in 2022, Have your say... Children and Young People's Plan, Sure Start Maternity Grant



Starting School in 2022 - Information to help parents to apply on time

On Monday 1 November 2021, applications will open for parents to apply for their child (born between 01 September 2017 – 31 August 2018) to start school in September 2022. The closing date for applications is 15 January 2022.

Parents will be able to apply online from 1 November via the Hampshire County

Council website: www.hants.gov.uk/educationandlearning/admissions. Paper forms will also be available from any Hampshire primary or infant school on request from the same date.

Full information about the application process can be found at:

www.hants.gov.uk/educationandlearning/admissions/applicationprocess/yearR.

Parents visiting the website will also find guidance on how to choose a school, what to do if they are moving house, starting school options including decelerated admission for summer born children, and lots of other useful information.

For further information or need help with your application you can contact the Admissions Team by e-mailing admissions.team@hants.gov.uk or calling 0300 555 1377.

Have your say on the future of children and young people in Hampshire

Work is underway to develop the next edition of Hampshire's *Children and Young People's Plan*, and a survey has been launched for parents, carers, and professionals to share their views on what matters most.

The feedback from children, young people, parents and carers, as well as professionals who work with children, young people and families will be used to design a new set of goals within the plan.

The survey will close at **midnight on Sunday 7 November 2021**:

<https://childrenshampshirecc.researchfeedback.net/s.asp?k=163187176128>



Sure Start Maternity Grant (SSMG)

You could get a one-off payment of £500 to help towards the costs of having a child. This is known as a Sure Start Maternity Grant.

You usually [qualify](#) for the grant if both of the following apply:

- you're expecting your first child, or you're expecting a multiple birth (such as twins) and have children already
- you or your partner already get certain [benefits](#)

You must claim the grant within 11 weeks of the baby's due date or within 6 months after the baby's birth.

You do not have to pay the grant back and it will not affect your other benefits or tax credits.