

Services for Young Children

Parents/ Carers Update October 2025

Included this month: Starting School in 2026, Hitting the Cold Spots, Early Years Skills Bootcamps, Childcare and Schools Employability Programme

Starting School in 2026



From **1 November 2025**, applications will open for parents to apply for their child (born between 01 September 2021 – 31 August 2022) to start school in September 2026. The closing date for applications is **15 January 2026**.

Parents will be able to apply online 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 1 November. 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 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 (between 8.30am and 2pm).

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](#)



Skills Bootcamps are marching their way to you!



Join a Skills Bootcamp for Hampshire residents. Among the 'camps' there is an Early Years and Childcare one, for people looking to start or change their career. Participants will be able to access a **funded** course to provide training and skills to prepare them for a role in either an early years or childcare setting, or to become a childminder. The next bootcamp is happening in **Winchester** from **3 November 2025**.

For more information or to book onto the Skills Bootcamps, please contact Itchen College on 02380 435636 or email courses@itchen.ac.uk. <https://www.itchen.ac.uk/adult-learning/our-courses/adult-learning-courses/skills-bootcamps-in-early-years/>

Childcare and Schools Employability Programme

Do you know a Hampshire resident aged 19+, currently unemployed and in receipt of benefits? Hampshire Achieves offers a **free** 3-week employability programme, to help people to apply for a job in the childcare and schools' sector. The next course is starting on **4 November 2025**. For more details, check eligibility and apply, visit:

<https://www.participationandlifelonglearning.co.uk/course/view.php?id=606>

or contact: skills.participation@hants.gov.uk



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