



## **& Childcare Clubs**

24/02/2017

### **30 Free hours Nursery Education Funding entitlement decision.**

Dear Parents

From September 2017 the government is extending the Nursery Education Fund (NEF) for 3 three and four year olds of working parents. **All** three and four year-olds and the 40% most disadvantaged two-year-olds in England are currently eligible for funded early year's provision for 15 hours per week, 38 weeks of the year. This will increase to 30 hours per week for three and four-year-olds from working families.

All settings are being given the choice as to how they deliver this and in deed if they are able to, financially and logistically. Since last year, as a management team, we have been considering possibilities culminating in a committee meeting and vote. This review considered many ways of operating and looked at the potential impacts such as numbers of children, quality of service, impact on staff and working hours. We carried out a Swot analysis and looked at the way we currently operate. In the end we went back to what we did, how we did it and why and this actually heavily influenced our decision making.

***“Evidence shows that attending good quality early education has a lasting impact on social and behavioural outcomes.” DfE (2016) ‘Early education and childcare Statutory guidance for local authorities’***

As a setting we aim to provide the best quality education and childcare for children, through employing high quality well trained and experienced staff; creating and maintaining a safe, exciting and appropriate environment for children aged between 2-11 years.

We recognise the impact of children experiencing quality opportunities and effective support of their development and wellbeing across all aspects of their lives. We also support parents need to work and aim to provide the best service for them, in a place convenient and accessible for them, at times to suit their lifestyles.

To enable us to continue to offer this service to as many families as we can, remaining inclusive, we have decided to continue to offer the 15 hours free NEF to all families and opt out of the extended offer of 30 free hours for working families only. We will continue to allow parents to buy additional hours above the 15, as many of our current families already do. We feel this way we can accommodate more families who require our services, remain sustainable and maintain a high quality provision. If you require any more information on either this decision or the government's incentive, feel free to contact myself, Ruth Vaughan (Setting Manager) [nhps.manager1@gmail.com](mailto:nhps.manager1@gmail.com) or Nick Dunn (Chair) [nicholas.dunn@nationalgrid.com](mailto:nicholas.dunn@nationalgrid.com)

