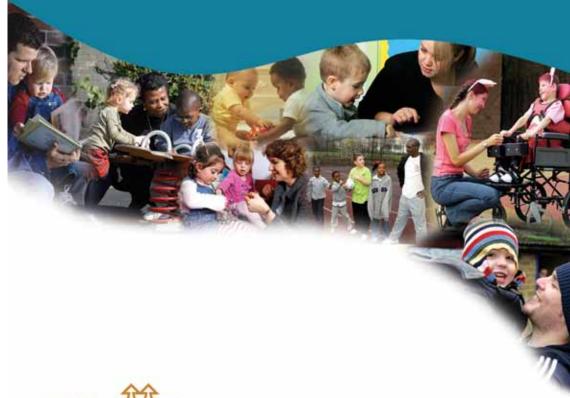




## **A PARENTS GUIDE**

to FREE Nursery Education for 3 & 4 year olds in Middlesbrough







#### What is the Nursery Education Grant?

The Nursery Education Grant is funding made available to provide your 3 or 4 year old child with a free part time nursery session before they reach statutory school age.

Middlesbrough Council aims to:

- Support parents in accessing quality education for their child;
- Deliver the nursery entitlement flexibly, taking into account the needs of children and families;

## What is my child entitled to?

Your child is entitled to a maximum of 15hrs nursery education for 38 weeks of the academic year. Sessions should be held for a minimum of 2.5 hours a day and a maximum of 10hrs a day. The 15 hours must be taken over a minimum of 3 days. Please see individual registered providers for their terms and conditions.

You could choose to take your grant over two registered providers; this is acceptable as long as the total amount does not exceed 15 hours per week.

### When can my child start receiving the grant?

Your child is entitled to the grant according to the following table:

#### Child's birthday

- 1 April to 31 August
- 1 September to 31 December
- 1 January to 31 March

#### **Eligible for grant**

- 1 September following 3rd birthday
- 1 January following 3rd birthday
- 1 April following 3rd birthday

#### How do I apply for a nursery place?

It is advisable you contact your preferred provider as soon as possible to ensure a nursery place is available as some providers do hold waiting lists. The Family Information Service (01642 354200) can offer you a list of registered providers including

- Day Nurseries
- Pre-School or Playgroups; and
- School Nurseries



Every session
of free nursery
education provided
should be of good quality
and at least to the standard
considered acceptable by OFSTED

to deliver nursery education. All settings will have a copy of their latest OFSTED report available for you to read.

## How does the funding work?

Your chosen provider will ask you to bring your child's birth certificate and ask you to sign a declaration form.

They will then claim the Nursery Education Grant on your behalf from the Local Authority.

If you are accessing hours of childcare in excess of the 15 hours you will be charged for this service from the provider.

# What happens if my child needs to move to a different nursery and leaves early?

Your nursery provider will inform the Local Authority on your behalf if your child moves nurseries or leaves early.

#### Where can I request more information?

For further information on your child's entitlement please contact:

Family Information Service
The TAD Centre
Ormesby Road, Middlesbrough
TS3 7SF

Telephone: 01642 354200

#### Find us on Facebook -

www.facebook.com/Family information Service, Middlesbrough Click 'like' to follow our news.

