



**Long Sutton County Primary School**  
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Registered Company Number 07788995

Headteacher: Mr B Lord

August 2020

### **30 hours extended early years entitlement for three- and four-year-olds, and children in foster care**

Dear parents / carers,

As you will be aware, the universal free childcare entitlement for three- and four-year-olds was extended from 15 to 30 hours per week for certain working parents in September 2017. From September 2018, this will be extended further to children in foster care where the foster parents meet certain eligibility criteria.

For **three- and four-year-olds**, parents must meet one of the following eligibility criteria to receive the extended hours:

- Each parent earns, or is expected to earn, a weekly minimum equivalent to 16 hours at National Minimum Wage or National Living Wage (unless in a 'start up' period – i.e. newly self-employed – in which case they don't need to meet the income criteria for 12 months)
- The parent should be seeking the free childcare to enable them to work
- One or both parents are on maternity, paternity, shared parental or adoption leave, or are on statutory sick leave
- One parent meets the income criteria and the other is unable to work because they are disabled, have caring responsibilities or have been assessed as having limited capability to work

You're not eligible if:

- Your child does not usually live with you
- Either you or your partner has a taxable income over £100,000
- You're from outside the EEA and your UK residence card says you cannot access public funds

For **children in foster care** to be eligible, the following criteria must be met:

- Accessing the extended hours is consistent with the child's care plan, placing the child at the centre of the process and decision-making;
- In single parent foster families, the foster parent engages in paid work outside their role as a foster parent; or
- In two-parent foster families, both partners engage in paid work outside their role as a foster parent (if one partner is not a foster parent, they must be in qualifying paid work and earn a minimum of the equivalent to 16 hours at National Minimum Wage or National Living Wage).

## Checking your eligibility for three- and four-year-old children

You can check your eligibility by using the government's [Childcare Choices](http://www.childcarechoices.gov.uk) website (www.childcarechoices.gov.uk) or the [Childcare Calculator](http://www.gov.uk/childcare-calculator) (www.gov.uk/childcare-calculator). If you are eligible, you will be directed to the digital childcare service to apply and receive your unique eligibility code.

We will need this code, together with your National Insurance number and child's date of birth, to enable us to verify your eligibility with the DfE's Eligibility Checking System. Please complete and return the cut-off slip to the school office by the end of the Summer term, indicating whether you consent to your data being used in this way and, if consent is given, providing the requisite information.

### Checking your eligibility for foster care children

You should complete an application form, which must be counter-signed by a designated person within the LA – this individual is [name of individual](#) and can be contacted on [phone number](#) or [email address](#). You must submit the application form to the LA by [the end of the Summer term](#). The school can provide this form on request.

There is no requirement to check your eligibility using the Childcare Service – it is up to the LA to decide whether you will be eligible for the additional hours on the basis of satisfying the eligibility criteria.

If you believe you are eligible, please get in touch with Tracey Roscher, the School Business Manager in school, by emailing [tracey.roscher@longsutton.lincs.sch.uk](mailto:tracey.roscher@longsutton.lincs.sch.uk) or by calling 01406 363381 to discuss the matter further.

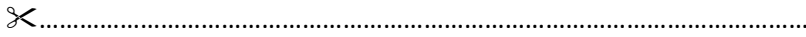
### Further information

If you have any questions regarding the information provided in this letter, please feel free to contact me on [bill.lord@longsutton.lincs.sch.uk](mailto:bill.lord@longsutton.lincs.sch.uk) or 01406 363381. For more information on how the school and the DfE will use your personal information, please read our Privacy Notice for Pupils and their Families, available to download on the school website.

Yours sincerely



Bill Lord  
Head Teacher



**Eligibility for three- and four-year-old children declaration**

Full name:	
I consent to my personal data being used for the DfE's Eligibility Checking Service.	Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/>
Parent signature:	

If you indicated 'Yes' above, please provide us with the below information.

Unique eligibility code:	
National Insurance Number:	
Child's date of birth	