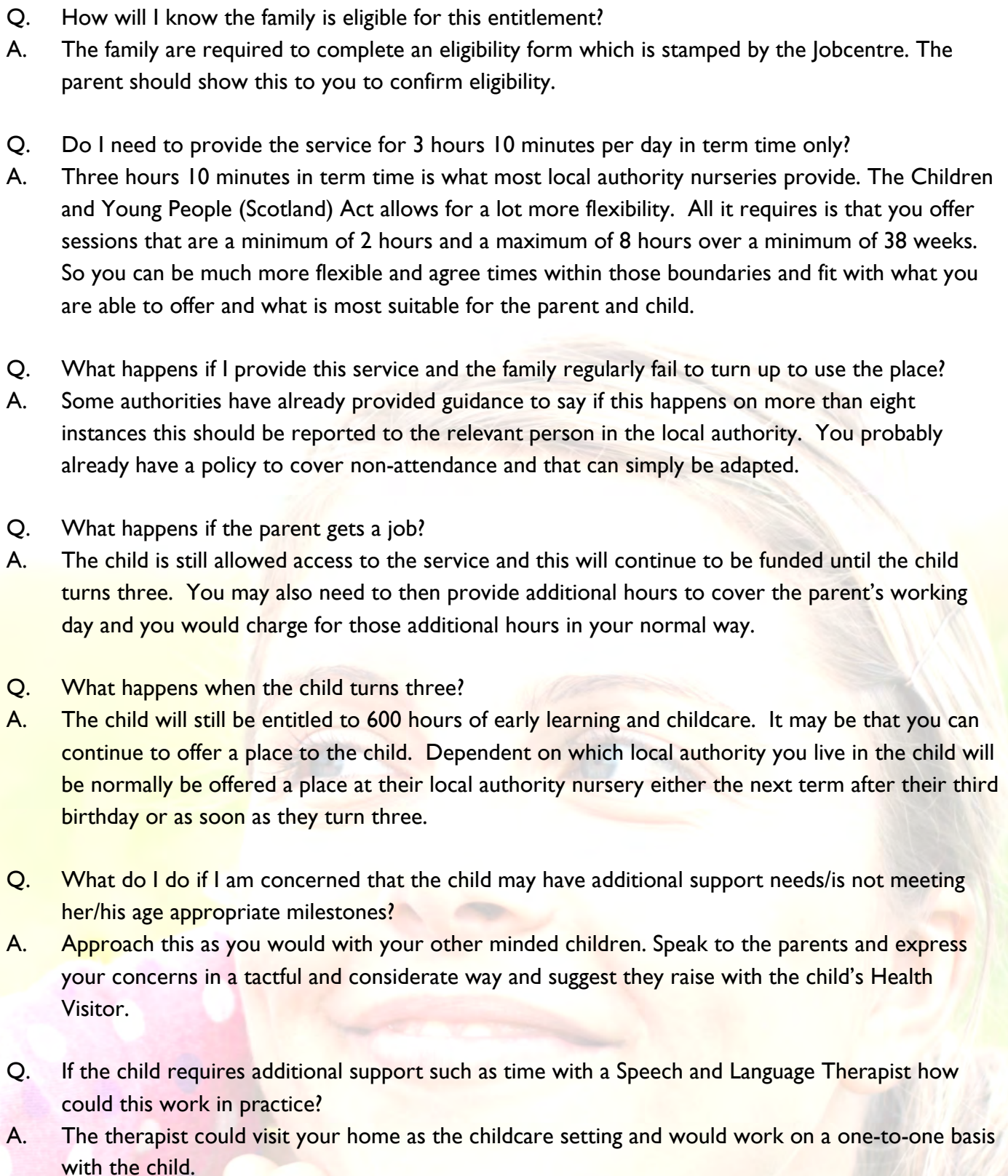


## Early Learning and Childcare; childminding delivery for the eligible twos

### Frequently Asked Questions

- Q. If I respond to my local authority to express an interest in delivering this service is that a commitment?
- A. No, you are simply noting your interest of becoming a partner provider.
- Q. Do I need to keep a place reserved if I register with my local authority to provide the 600 hours?
- A. No the local authority will keep a list of those who wish to deliver this service and the parent will choose the childminder dependent on availability and suitability.
- Q. How much will I be paid?
- A. Most local authorities are paying an hourly rate similar to their other partner providers, of those we know this ranges from £4.00 - £4.50 per hour currently. Some are also paying an annual sum for professional development, others are providing SCMA's Pre Birth to Three interactive workshop.
- Q. How will I be paid?
- A. This differs dependent on your area, of those we are aware of: one is paying in advance; the others are mostly paying monthly in arrears, a couple are paying by term.
- Q. Will I need to complete a tender?
- A. No areas we are working with are expecting this. In most cases they are trying to make the procurement process as simple and easy to complete as possible as they don't wish this to be a barrier to you considering to work in partnership.
- Q. Will my service receive an HMIE inspection from Education Scotland?
- A. You will be inspected by the Care Inspectorate. Education Scotland has no plans to inspect, they wish to provide a more supportive role to childminders and are working with SCMA and the Care Inspectorate to help achieve this. They have produced a joint statement which outlines this which is published on their website.
- Q. If my local authority provides quality improvement services to support their partner providers will they inspect my service too?
- A. The Quality Improvement Officers employed by the local authorities have a supportive role to assist partner providers with training and service development. It is hoped that partner provider childminders will be given access to this support also.
- Q. What extra paperwork will I require to keep/maintain?
- A. The evidence you already generate for the care inspectorate with the new focus on the SHANARRI health and wellbeing indicators should be sufficient to demonstrate the quality of your service provision. All providers delivering for the 2 year olds will be required to use the guidance provided in the resource "Pre Birth to Three" available on Education Scotland's website.

There is also a new document "National Practice Guidance for Early Learning and Childcare: Building the Ambition" designed to be used as a reference tool by all early years practitioners to support service delivery and development.

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- Q. How will I know the family is eligible for this entitlement?
- A. The family are required to complete an eligibility form which is stamped by the Jobcentre. The parent should show this to you to confirm eligibility.
- Q. Do I need to provide the service for 3 hours 10 minutes per day in term time only?
- A. Three hours 10 minutes in term time is what most local authority nurseries provide. The Children and Young People (Scotland) Act allows for a lot more flexibility. All it requires is that you offer sessions that are a minimum of 2 hours and a maximum of 8 hours over a minimum of 38 weeks. So you can be much more flexible and agree times within those boundaries and fit with what you are able to offer and what is most suitable for the parent and child.
- Q. What happens if I provide this service and the family regularly fail to turn up to use the place?
- A. Some authorities have already provided guidance to say if this happens on more than eight instances this should be reported to the relevant person in the local authority. You probably already have a policy to cover non-attendance and that can simply be adapted.
- Q. What happens if the parent gets a job?
- A. The child is still allowed access to the service and this will continue to be funded until the child turns three. You may also need to then provide additional hours to cover the parent's working day and you would charge for those additional hours in your normal way.
- Q. What happens when the child turns three?
- A. The child will still be entitled to 600 hours of early learning and childcare. It may be that you can continue to offer a place to the child. Dependent on which local authority you live in the child will be normally be offered a place at their local authority nursery either the next term after their third birthday or as soon as they turn three.
- Q. What do I do if I am concerned that the child may have additional support needs/is not meeting her/his age appropriate milestones?
- A. Approach this as you would with your other minded children. Speak to the parents and express your concerns in a tactful and considerate way and suggest they raise with the child's Health Visitor.
- Q. If the child requires additional support such as time with a Speech and Language Therapist how could this work in practice?
- A. The therapist could visit your home as the childcare setting and would work on a one-to-one basis with the child.