

# CHRISTCHURCH PLAYGROUP

Christchurch Playgroup is now a registered provider for two separate childcare offers:

## **Cardiff Council's Free Childcare Offer**

The childcare offer will provide eligible working parents with a combined 30 hours of early education and childcare for 3- and 4-year olds, for up to 48 weeks per year. In the case of Christchurch Playgroup, this will be limited to term-time only.

**What does it mean as a parent?** If you have a 3- or 4-year-old you are entitled to access a minimum of 10 hours per week of early education for your child during school terms (sometimes known as Foundation Phase Nursery). If you're working, you could also receive additional hours of government-funded childcare, so that you receive a combined total of 30 hours of childcare and early education per week for up to 48 weeks a year (Christchurch Playgroup – 39 weeks in term-time).

## **H.M.Government's Tax-Free Childcare Offer**

You can get up to £500 every 3 months (£2,000 a year) for each of your children to help with the costs of childcare. If you get Tax-Free Childcare, the government will pay £2 for every £8 you pay your childcare provider via an online account. You can use it to pay for approved childcare, with a registered provider such as Christchurch Playgroup. You can get Tax-Free Childcare at the same time as 30 hours free childcare if you're eligible for both.

## **What does it mean as a parent?**

You and your partner can usually get Tax-Free Childcare if you (and your partner, if you have one) are: in work - or getting parental leave, sick leave or annual leave; each earning at least the National Minimum Wage or Living Wage for 16 hours a week - this is £125.28 if you're 25 or over.

This earnings limit does not apply if you're self-employed and started your business less than 12 months ago. You're not eligible if: your child does not usually live with you; the child is your foster child; either you or your partner has a taxable income over £100,000.

If you wish to take advantage of either of these schemes, please contact Karen Philip – Christchurch Playgroup Leader:

Mobile – 07951 687448 or Email – [playgroup@christchurchunitedcardiff.org.uk](mailto:playgroup@christchurchunitedcardiff.org.uk)

Further information is available online at:

<https://www.cardiff.gov.uk/ENG/resident/Schools-and-learning/Early-years-and-childcare/Government-funded-Childcare/Pages/default.aspx>

and

<https://www.gov.uk/get-tax-free-childcare>