



Services for Young Children

Parents/ Carers Update – April 2017

Childcare Choices

Childcare Choices provides parents with a single point of information for all the government funded childcare offers, including the two new offers: 30 hours free childcare and Tax Free Childcare.

With the launch of a new Childcare Choices government website www.childcarechoices.gov.uk parents can pre-register for the government's new childcare offers.

The Childcare Choices website includes a Childcare Calculator (www.gov.uk/childcare-calculator) for parents to compare all the government's childcare offers and check what works best for their families. Through the site parents can also pre-register for email alerts that will notify them when they can apply, as well as providing details of existing government childcare offers.

Key **launch dates** are: 28 April 2017 – Tax-Free Childcare

1 September 2017 – 30 Hours Free Childcare

Baby benefits for new parents at their local library

Parents are benefiting from postnatal health support for their babies at Hampshire Libraries, as part of an initiative to improve access to more public services by housing them under one roof.

Since October 2016 more than 1,200 babies and new parents have benefited from health visitor services at Gosport Discovery Centre provided by Southern Health NHS Trust, such as child health assessments and parental support groups.



Similar Southern Health services can also be found at other libraries such as Fareham, Stubbington, Elson and Lee-on-the-Solent.

Gosport Discovery Centre will be refurbished and reconfigured to become a Community Hub later this year, as part of a County Council investment in the building which will enable more public health services and older persons day facilities to co-locate in the building, making the building work harder, in line with the Authority's commitment made in the [Library Strategy to 2020](#).

Re-watch a [Facebook Live Broadcast](#) from a Life with Baby session at Gosport Discovery Centre.