

Whittingham, Alnwick, Northumberland NE66 4UP | Telephone: 01665 574222 Email: Admin@whittingham.northumberland.sch.uk

Thursday 2<sup>nd</sup> March 2017.

Dear Parent/Legal Guardian,

## **Two Year Old Entitlement Information**

As part of our continued development of our Early Years class, we can now offer Rising 3 Year Old places using the Two Year Old Free Entitlement Scheme, if certain criteria are met and spaces are available. These are places are for children who have their third birthday in the term, rather than starting nursery the term after their third birthday.

In the future we are looking to develop our provision for two year olds to include children as soon as they turn two years old but as we are committed to providing a high quality education and a purpose built environment for 2 year olds this is part of a fundraising campaign and on our School Development Plan to be achieved within the next 4 years.

## What is free early education entitlement for 2 year olds?

Qualifying parents/carers who meet a range of criteria are entitled to free high quality early education for 15 hours per week (570 hours per year) taken over no fewer than 38 weeks.

Parents/carers can take up as much or as little of their entitlement as they wish.

## What criteria do I need to meet?

2 year olds in England are eligible for free early education if you are in receipt of one of the following:

- Child Tax Credit and have an annual income not over £16,190
- Working Tax credits and have annual gross earnings of no more than £16,190 per year
- Income Support
- Income-based Jobseeker's Allowance (JSA)
- Income-related Employment and Support Allowance (ESA)
- The Immigration and Asylum Act 1999
- Guaranteed element of State Pension Credit

Children will also be eligible if any of the following apply:

- They have a current Statement of Special Educational Needs or an Education, Health and Care plan
- They attract Disability Living Allowance
- They are looked after by a Local Authority
- They have left care through special guardianship or an adoption or residence order.

For further details please read – A Parent's Guide to Free Entitlement which is available on our School Website in the Information for Parents Section.

Please contact Mrs Athey, Headteacher and Early Years Lead on 01665 574222 for further information or for the opportunity to look around our wonderful school and meet school staff.

Kind regards, Belinda Athey. Headteacher.

Website: www.whittinghamprimaryschool.co.uk



