

Richmond Park Community Primary School  
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Carmarthenshire  
SA31 1NB



Ysgol Gynradd Gymunedol Parc Waundew  
Heol y Prior  
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= Richmond Park  
School, Carmarthen

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Dear Parents/Carers

The Welsh Government recognises that childcare is one of the biggest challenges facing working families in Wales. Supporting families with quality, flexible and affordable childcare supports economic regeneration, can reduce pressures on family income and help parents to participate in work, thus reducing a family's risk of poverty. It also supports the wellbeing of children through positive and rich childcare experiences.

As you may be aware, the Welsh Government has committed under the Childcare Offer to provide 30 hours a week of funded early education and childcare for eligible working parents of 3 and 4 year olds, for 48 weeks of the year. The current free early education provided by the Foundation Phase which we provide will form a part of this offer. During holiday time this will increase to 30 hours of funded childcare.

You are eligible for the childcare offer if you have a child of the relevant age (from the term after their 3<sup>rd</sup> birthday until they start in full time schooling) and are working and earning at least the equivalent of 16 hours at the National Minimum Wage of National Living Wage up to £100,000 per parent. At the point a parent in Carmarthenshire is offered a full time education place for their child, they will no longer be eligible to take up the offer during term time. In Carmarthenshire Local Authority, children are offered a full time placement from the beginning of the term the child turn 4 years old.

The online application process for eligible working parents/carers opened in mid-November 2018. To date over 250 applications have been received and over 175 of these have been successfully processed. There is a requirement set by Welsh Government to deliver a minimum of 10 hours of formal education per week. They have agreed that all eligible children will be classified as receiving 10 hours of education and therefore will be entitled to 20 hours of funded childcare per week (term time).

Therefore, as of the 30<sup>th</sup> April, we will be tweaking our Nursery hours to comply with this rollout. **Part time pupils attending our Nursery in the mornings will now attend from 9-11am, with part-time afternoon pupils attending from 1-3pm.** Those pupils attending our Nursery on a full-time basis will be unaffected as they'll be with us from 9-3pm. This change will ensure that both morning and afternoon Nursery pupils receive the same hourly provision. These times will apply to all part-time Nursery pupils, even if you don't qualify for the offer.

Pupils will continue to be dropped off and collected at the main Nursery door. The gate for part-time Nursery morning parents will now be opened at 10.55am for parents to come to the main Nursery door to wait for the children, whereas the afternoon gate will be opened at 2.55pm. **Nursery and Reception pupils will both be released together at 3pm at the end of the day.** The double doors will both be open to ease the congestion and improve the flow as all pupils leave.

If you would like to know anything else about this change, please feel free to contact myself or the class teachers.

Kind regards

Mr D Cooper  
Acting Headteacher

