Dear Parent/Carer,

Re: 30 hours Free Childcare

St Marie’s will be extending their early years provision to provide parents/carers with the 30-hour free childcare, (term time only) with effect from April 26th 2022. The government's 30-hours funded childcare places for working parents of three- and four year-olds differs from the 15 hours childcare offer. All 3 and 4 year old children are entitled to 15 hours of funded term time childcare. Some working parents will be able to claim an additional 15 hours of funded childcare.

**Eligibility**

To be eligible to apply for the additional 15 hours of funded childcare, the household must:

Be a two-parent working family or a lone working parent

Working will include employed and self-employed persons

Have all parents working and each parent earning on average: the equivalent of 16 hours a week at the National Minimum or Living Wage (includes income received from tax credits or Universal Credit) and earning less than £100,000 per year. NB if one parent’s income exceeds £100,000 the household will not be eligible.

**How to Apply?**

Complete the parental agreement form and provide a copy of your child’s birth certificate or passport. Forms are available on request from the school office.

**Obtain your code**

If you are eligible and your child turned 3 before the 31st of March you will need to apply for a code by the 31st of March 22 to start your additional hours from the 26th of April.

We cannot allocate a place without this code.

If you child is eligible however turns 3 in the summer term please contact us to discuss.

You can find further information and advice on the new Childcare Choices website here:

<https://www.childcarechoices.gov.uk/>.

Childcare Choices brings together all the government childcare offers in one place for the first time. The new Childcare Choices website makes it easy to find out what’s on offer.

Use the Childcare Calculator at:

[www.gov.uk/childcare-calculator](http://www.gov.uk/childcare-calculator)

To see what offers are available to support you and your family.

If you require any further information, please contact the school office on 0151 4778480.