



Universal Credit: Childcare Announcement is Good For Families

Commenting on the announcement that the Government are providing for help with childcare through Universal Credit Family Action Chief Executive Helen Dent said: "Adequate support for childcare under universal credit is vital if the Government want to realise their ambition to make work pay for families. We really welcome this £300 million as a first step towards achieving this. We know from speaking to the families we work with how tight their budgets are and how important childcare support it.

"We're pleased that the Government have listened on removing the hours rule. Help with even a few hours work will mean that some families are able to get their feet on the jobs ladder and give the families we work with some confidence and skills in work which they can build on.

However, some of the most vulnerable families who were receiving up to 95.5% help for childcare under the old system will still lose out and the £300 million is half the amount which it has been suggested that the Government needs to make work pay for all families in a recent Gingerbread and Resolution Foundation report.

That's why we'll continue campaigning with colleagues to press the Government to increase the support available for parents up to 80% of childcare costs in future budgets. Only by taking further action to make work pay for all will the Government fulfil their ambitious plans for families."

Ends

Notes to Editors

About Family Action

Family Action has been a leading provider and services to disadvantaged and socially isolated families since 1869. We work with over 45,000 children and families a year by providing practical, emotional and financial support through over 100 services based in communities across England. A further 150,000 people benefit from our educational grants and information service.