

### **Lower rate flexible working incentive - £100 annual payment**

- A childminder applying for the lower rate flexible working incentive must have been accepted onto the stage 1 network by Trio Childcare Connections and comply with the network terms and conditions
- An application for the lower rate flexible working incentive can only be made on the application form provided by Swindon Sure Start Partnership
- Childminders must keep their details available and up to date on the public list and respond to any requests for information from the Family Information Service
- Childminder services must be available for parents to be able to access childcare or a combination of education and childcare from 8am – 6pm for a minimum of 2 days a week during school term time
- Incentives are paid on a one off basis for the financial year 11 - 12
- Funding is finite and no incentive can be guaranteed even if the application meets the criteria
- Swindon Sure Start Partnership reserves the right to request the return of the incentive if a childminder fails either to provide information to the Family Information Service or to deliver the level of flexibility agreed

### **Higher rate flexible working incentive – £200 annual payment (£100 additional payment if the lower rate has already been claimed)**

- A childminder applying for the higher rate flexible working incentive must have been accepted onto the stage 1 network by Trio Childcare Connections and comply with the network terms and conditions
- An application for the higher rate flexible working incentive can only be made on the application form provided by Swindon Sure Start Partnership
- Childminders must keep their details available and up to date on the public list and respond to any requests for information from the Family Information Service.
- Childminder services must offer parents the opportunity to access childcare to support additional flexibility. Our intention is that parents should not be penalised for needing flexible childcare and so we expect charging policies to be reasonable. The flexibility offered must include at least three of the following which must be advised to the Family Information Service:
  - Offering services at or before 7.30am
  - Offering services at or after 6.30pm
  - Offering services at weekends
  - Offering services overnight
  - Offering services to support atypical shift patterns for example one week on one week off
  - Offering services on bank holidays
  - Offering services to school aged children on their teacher development days
- Any specific interpretations of flexibility are at the discretion of Swindon Sure Start Partnership and must be agreed on an individual case by case basis.
- Incentives are paid on a one off basis for the financial year 11 - 12
- Funding is finite and no incentive can be guaranteed even if the application meets the criteria
- Swindon Sure Start Partnership reserves the right to request the return of the incentive if a childminder fails either to provide information to the Family Information Service or to deliver the level of flexibility agreed.