

Hi,

I am writing to give you feedback on the cut of the 20 hours nursery fees. Myself and my husband both work so our earnings are over £75,000. I work reduced hours to spend some time with my son and my husband works full time. I am 35 and delayed having children to improve my career prospects so therefore We both are earning a higher salary than say a 21 year old. This seems to be quite common in Jersey because of the high cost of living. I have a two year old and am 8 months pregnant. We timed our second around the 20 free hours to make it more affordable so this is going to hit us hard. The loss of the 20 free hours is unfair from a financial and educational perspective. Financially, just because we earn over £75k does not make us wealthy. We have a big mortgage, pay high taxes and social security, parking to get to work. We don't have expensive cars or go on expensive holidays. We spend the spare money we have on nursery fees (currently £850 per month) and go without so our son doesn't miss out. We would be greatly penalised for being working parents who pay our fair share of taxes. States nursery is not helpful because it would be term time only and we start work early in the morning. From an educational point of view if it was at one time deemed appropriate that children at 3/4 should start attending nursery for interaction purposes and to help bridge the gap to primary school then that decision shouldn't come down to whether the states want to pay back the deficit from cuts to nursery funding. The states pay for a lot of absurd things and to loose this funding before they make cuts elsewhere is disproportionate. Hope this isn't too much of a ramble!

Thanks