

STATES OF JERSEY



NURSERY EDUCATION FUND (S.R.2/2016): RESPONSE OF THE MINISTER FOR EDUCATION

**Presented to the States on 2nd August 2016
by the Minister for Education**

STATES GREFFE

TITLE

Ministerial Response to: S.R.2/2016
Ministerial Response required by: 26th July 2016
Review title: Nursery Education Fund
Scrutiny Panel: Education and Home Affairs Scrutiny Panel

INTRODUCTION

I would like to convey my thanks to the Education and Home Affairs Scrutiny Panel for undertaking this review. Following the report I have amended my proposals to include a revised threshold and a sliding scale.

RECOMMENDATIONS

	Recommendations	To	Accept/ Partially Accept/ Reject	Comments	Target date of action/ completion
1	The Minister for Education should withdraw this proposal. The Minister for Education should withdraw this proposal completely until there has been consultation, full impact assessments and evidence of connectivity with other financial policies, such as tax thresholds, within the States.	Education Minister	Partially Accept	<p>Following consultation with stakeholders the proposal to means test access to free nursery hours has been amended to include a sliding scale.</p> <p>An extra £0.1 million is being allocated to the Nursery Education Fund to provide States funded places for children in nurseries to cater for high birth numbers in 2010 – 12.</p> <p>However, higher income families will receive less support as a result of means-testing access to 20 free hours of pre-school education for households earning more than £85,000.</p> <p>The proposals are part of the Draft Medium Term Financial Plan which will be debated in the States. The debate starts on the 27th September 2016.</p>	October 2016