

**Senate Standing Committee on Education Employment and Workplace  
Relations**

**QUESTIONS ON NOTICE  
Additional Estimates 2011-2012**

**Outcome 1 - Early Childhood Education and Child Care**

**DEEWR Question No. EW1172\_12**

**Senator Back asked on 16 February 2012 , Hansard page 15**

**Question**

**concessional arrangements to meet families' needs**

Senator McKENZIE: Fantastic. Could you please, on notice, provide a mapping exercise, if you like, of what is available where, because it is all fine and well, I think, to say that the service is out there, but it would be great to know where it is available. Is that possible? Ms Caldwell: And the information is also in the handbook of the range of concessional arrangements to meet families' needs. Ms Taylor: And we are happy to provide copies of the childcare handbook, if you like.

**Answer**

Families who have work related demands, such as shift work, can access child care arrangements that meets their needs through the different types of approved child care services (for the purposes of Child Care Benefit). Depending on a family's circumstances and the service's hours of operation this may include up to 14 periods of 24-hour care per child per year, if needed.

Eligible families using approved child care services (for the purposes of Child Care Benefit) can be paid the Child Care Benefit and/or the Child Care Rebate to assist with the cost of child care fees.

Information on child care fee assistance, child care service location, fee and vacancy information is available to parents through the [www.mychild.gov.au](http://www.mychild.gov.au) website and the Child Care Access Hotline Child Care Access Hotline on 1800 670 305.

Further information about the operation of approved child care services can be found in the Child Care Services Handbook, a publication that is annually updated. The 2011-12 edition of the Handbook can be found on the DEEWR website at:

<http://www.deewr.gov.au/EarlyChildhood/Programs/ChildCareforServices/Operation/Pages/ccservicehandbook.aspx>