

## **TAX FREE CHILDCARE - Parent Information**



We accept Tax-Free Childcare through your online childcare account. For every £8 you pay in, the government automatically adds an extra £2 straight into your Tax-Free Childcare account. You'll then be able to use the full balance to pay for your childcare. You can get up to £500 every 3 months (up to £2,000 a year) for each of your children to help with the costs of childcare. This goes up to £1,000 every 3 months if a child is disabled (up to £4,000 a year).

### **You can use it to pay for approved childcare, for example:**

- childminders, nurseries and nannies
- after school clubs and play schemes

### **Your eligibility depends on:**

- whether you're working (employed, self-employed, or a director)
- your income (and your partner's income, if you have one)
- your child's age and circumstances
- your immigration status

### **Your income**

Over the next 3 months you and your partner (if you have one) must each expect to earn at least:

- £2,379 if you're aged 21 or over
- £1,788 if you're aged 18 to 20
- £1,331 if you're under 18 or an apprentice

If you or your partner have an expected '[adjusted net income](#)' over £100,000 in the current tax year, you will not be eligible.

### **Your child**

Your child must be 11 or under and usually live with you. They stop being eligible on 1 September after their 11th birthday.

Adopted children are eligible, but foster children are not. If your child is disabled and usually lives with you, you may get up to £4,000 a year until 1 September after their 16th birthday.

[Apply online for Tax-Free Childcare](#)

**You will need:**

- Your National Insurance Number
- Personal details - UK Passport or Driving Licence
- the UK birth certificate reference number (if you have one) of any children you're applying for
- the date you started or are due to start work (this can be approximate if more than 3 months ago)

**How parents can find you**

Once you've signed up to Tax-Free Childcare, parents can use the childcare provider checker to search for you, using your:

- name (the name you registered with your regulatory authority); or
- address or postcode; or
- regulator reference, for example, if you've registered with OFSTED this will be your Unique Reference Number (URN)

**Your online childcare service account**

Once you've successfully applied for your online account, you can:

- view all your children's Tax-Free Childcare accounts in one place
- confirm you're still eligible for Tax-Free Childcare and 30 hours free childcare
- start paying into your children's Tax-Free Childcare accounts and
- use it to pay for childcare costs

How much you pay into your Tax-Free Childcare account, and when, is up to you. You can make one-off payments (for example, by debit card) or set-up a standing order to make regular payments into your Tax-Free Childcare account.

You can pay up to 10 childcare providers from each Tax-Free Childcare account. You'll need to make a separate payment for each eligible child.

Other people, such as family members and employers, can also pay into your Tax-Free Childcare account.

When you use your Tax-Free Childcare account to pay a childcare provider, it can take 2-3 working days for your money to reach them.

**For more information please click the link below:**

<https://www.gov.uk/childcare-calculator>

<https://www.childcare-support.tax.service.gov.uk/>

