

Message for Local Authorities

Help working families save money on childcare bills with Tax-Free Childcare

Tax-Free Childcare supports working families, including the self-employed, with childcare costs. If a working parent or carer is earning at least the National Minimum Wage for 16 hours a week on average and under £100,000 per annum, they may be eligible to get £500 every three months (up to £2,000 a year per child) towards their childcare costs. If their child has a disability, they may be eligible for £1,000 every three months (up to £4,000 a year per child).

Parents can use Tax-Free Childcare to pay for childcare including:

- childminders, pre-schools, nurseries and nannies
- playschemes, before and after school clubs, and holiday clubs.

What you can do to encourage take up of Tax-Free Childcare

- Find out the families in your area who are not using Tax Free Childcare and support them to understand its benefits and how to apply for it
- Update your website with information about Tax Free Childcare. Include links to useful sources of information such as:
 - [Childcare choices](#) – to help parents decide what is the best childcare offer for them
 - [Childcare Calculator](#) – so they can understand which offer works best for them financially
 - [Tax-Free Childcare](#) page on gov.uk - to give them up-to-date information on eligibility criteria and how to apply
- Encourage childcare providers in your area to sign up to the scheme. Tax Free Childcare may support the growth of their business by making childcare more accessible and affordable for working parents.



Message for employers

Help employees save money on their childcare bills with Tax-Free Childcare

As an employer, you might want to recognise that some employees have high childcare costs and may not be aware of support that is available to them.

Who is eligible?

To get Tax-Free Childcare, they need to be working at least 16 hours a week, earning at least the National Minimum Wage or National Living Wage. This includes being:

- self-employed
- on maternity or parental leave
- on sick leave or annual leave. Their child is eligible until the September after their 11th birthday, or until their 17th birthday if they have a disability.



Parents can't claim Tax-Free Childcare at the same time as Working Tax Credit, Child Tax Credit or Universal Credit, but can claim at the same time 30 hours free childcare in England, or the Scottish and Welsh childcare offers if they are eligible for them.

How it works

Parents set up an online childcare account for their child/children. For every £8 they pay into their account(s), the government will pay in £2, up to a maximum of £2,000 a year per child (or £4,000 if their child has a disability). They can then use the money to pay their childcare provider. They need to reconfirm their eligibility for Tax-Free Childcare every three months. They will get a text reminder and it's easy to do through their online childcare account.

If parents live in Northern Ireland

If parents live and pay tax in Northern Ireland but use a childcare provider in the Republic of Ireland, please advise them to call 0300 123 4097 to check their eligibility.

If they live in Northern Ireland but work in the Republic of Ireland, they're eligible for Tax-Free Childcare if they or their partner pay UK tax and complete an annual Self-Assessment tax return.

Find out more

To find out more about childcare offers across the UK please visit www.childcarechoices.gov.uk and [Tax-Free Childcare](#) and sign up [here](#) Childcare providers can find out more and sign up [here](#)

Message for Childcare Providers

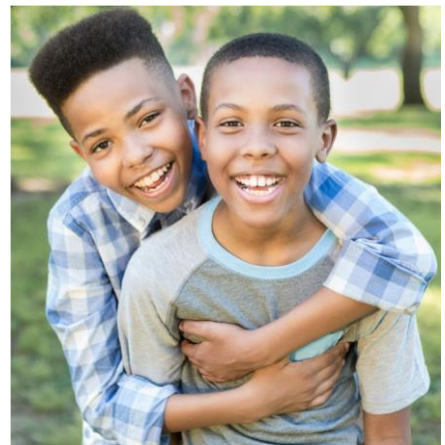
Sign up to Tax-Free Childcare and help your business grow

If you're a registered childcare provider, you can sign up to a childcare provider account and receive payments from parents who use Tax-Free Childcare.

The scheme helps parents to stay in work or work more hours by reducing childcare costs. This help may generate additional income for your business by increasing the need for extra hours of paid for childcare while parents are at work.

Don't Miss Out

Help get parents up to £2000 per child each year or £4000 per disabled child each year



It couldn't be easier to sign up as a Childcare Provider with Tax Free Childcare. Once you've been approved by a regulator (for example Ofsted), you will receive an invitation letter.

If you haven't received your invitation letter or you have lost it, please contact the helpline on **0300 123 4097**.

The invitation letter will provide you with a 11-digit user ID. With your user ID, your bank details and your business postcode (the one registered with your regulator); you can now [sign-up](#).