

## **Tax-Free Childcare**

If you are eligible for Tax-Free Childcare you will receive a government top-up of £2 for every £8 that you pay into your Tax-Free Childcare account.

Tax-Free Childcare is available to over a million working families, including many who do not get other types of government support.

Over 60% of childcare providers have signed up to receive Tax-Free Childcare, so collectively they cover most eligible parents.

Tax-Free Childcare is not just for everyday childcare costs, such as childminders, nurseries and nannies.

Parents can also use it to pay towards the cost of (qualifying) after school clubs, play schemes, holiday clubs, summer camps and school holiday activities.

## **Where to get more information**

More information on the government's childcare schemes is available from [www.childcarechoices.gov.uk](http://www.childcarechoices.gov.uk) which also includes a childcare calculator to find out how much you could receive. Our frequently asked questions section will also answer any questions you may have.

Parents can also apply for free childcare for 2 year olds if their family is eligible.

## **How do I apply for a place?**

Parents and carers with children under the age of 4 can check with HMRC whether they are eligible and apply online now using <https://www.childcarechoices.gov.uk/> or by phone 0300 123 4097. Parents with older children can also receive email alerts about tax free childcare and when to apply for 30 hours using the same link.

You will be asked to set up a childcare service account in order to set up your own unique secure account before you get to the tax free childcare section and 30 hour section.

Parents will need to reconfirm they are still eligible for the entitlement every three months through their own childcare service account or by phone.

## **What if I lose my job?**

There will be a 'grace period' so a child can continue with their childcare place and you have time to look for work. The 'grace period' will allow you to retain your childcare place for a short period if you become ineligible for the extended entitlement. Parents and providers will be informed when the grace period will end.

## **What if I am not eligible now but become so in the future?**

Parents can complete the online application and check eligibility at any time.