



Let's talk about Tax-Free Childcare (TFC) and other childcare support and how it supports sustainability.



Agenda

1

Welcome and aims of the session

2

TFC and other childcare support

3

Resources

4

Learning from what has worked

My day rate is...

My hourly rate is...

But that is not what you will necessarily pay...

Families can access...

- 15-hours and 30-hours childcare
- Tax Credits for childcare
- Universal Credit for childcare
- Tax-Free Childcare
- Support while you study



<https://www.childcarechoices.gov.uk/>

Combining schemes

Any of the following schemes:

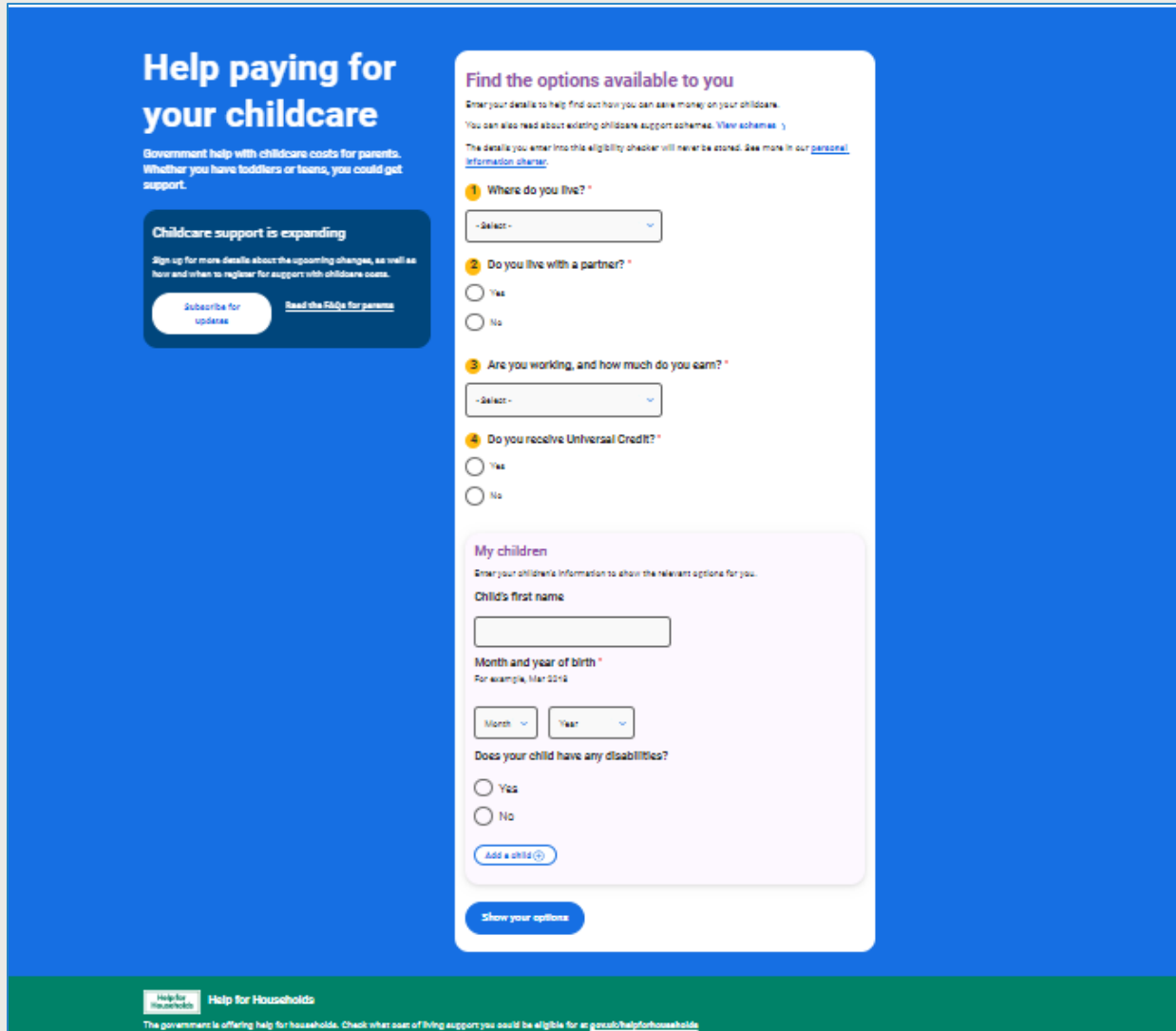
Tax-Free Childcare	Tax Credits	Universal Credit
Age 0 - 11 or 16 if disabled	Age 0 - 15 or 16 if disabled	Age 0 - 16
Working families	Working families	Working families
Get up to £2000 per child	Claim back up to 70% of costs	Claim back up to 85% of costs

Can be used with:

15 hours childcare	15 hours childcare	15 hours childcare
Age 9 - 23 months	Age 2	Age 3 & 4
Working families	Families getting some form of government support	All families
15 or 30 hours childcare		
Age 2 - 4		
Working families		

<https://www.childcarechoices.gov.uk/combining-schemes>

Help paying for childcare costs



Help paying for your childcare

Government help with childcare costs for parents. Whether you have toddlers or teens, you could get support.

Childcare support is expanding

Sign up for more details about the upcoming changes, as well as how and when to register for support with childcare costs.

[Subscribe for updates](#) [Read the FAQs for parents](#)

Find the options available to you

Enter your details to help find out how you can save money on your childcare. You can also read about existing childcare support schemes. [View schemes](#)

The details you enter into this eligibility checker will never be stored. See more in our [personal information charter](#).

1 Where do you live? *

- Select -

2 Do you live with a partner? *

Yes

No

3 Are you working, and how much do you earn? *

- Select -

4 Do you receive Universal Credit? *

Yes

No

My children

Enter your children's information to show the relevant options for you.

Child's first name

Month and year of birth *

For example, Mar 2016

Month Year

Does your child have any disabilities?

Yes

No

[Add a child \(+\)](#)

[Show your options](#)

Help for Households **Help for Households**

The government is offering help for households. Check what sort of living support you could be eligible for at [gov.uk/helpforhouseholds](#)

Most families can access government support to help pay for childcare, visit this site to find out more

www.childcarechoices.gov.uk

Universal childcare credit

- For working families claiming Universal Credit, in England, Scotland, and Wales.
- Eligibility criteria apply.
- Both parents working – unless one of the allowable exceptions is met.
- With children usually under 17 (including children with a disability).
- Up to 85% of eligible childcare costs can be reclaimed.
- Upfront support is available to fund the first month's payment.
- Can be accessed through registered providers or childminders.

<https://www.childcarechoices.gov.uk/how-universal-credit-childcare-works>



How Universal Credit Childcare works

If you pay for childcare while you go to work, Universal Credit can pay some of your childcare costs.

1 How much you can get

You can get **up to 85% of childcare costs** paid back to you.

The maximum amount a month is:

- £1,014.63 for one child
- £1,739.37 for two or more children

You might also be able to get help with your initial upfront childcare costs.

2 Eligibility

You need to be either:

- In paid work
- Starting a job in the next month

If you live with a partner, you both need to be in paid work, unless your partner cannot look after your children.

3 What the costs can cover

Your childcare must be with **registered childcare providers**.

Usually that means they are registered with OFSTED, the Care Inspectorate in Scotland or the Care Inspectorate Wales.

4 How to apply?

For more information speak to your work coach or visit [Gov.uk](https://www.gov.uk)

[Learn about Universal Credit Childcare](https://www.childcarechoices.gov.uk/how-universal-credit-childcare-works)

<https://www.childcarechoices.gov.uk/how-universal-credit-childcare-works>

Universal Credit

- Parents/carers pay for childcare costs.
- Then report them to Universal Credit, and Universal Credit pays some of the money back.
- Parents/carers will only get the money back with Universal Credit after the childcare happens.
- If childcare is paid after it's been provided, the costs will be paid back in the same month that they are reported.
- Proof of childcare provider and payments is required.

Tax-Free Childcare

For working families, including the self-employed, in the UK

Earning under £100k and at least £183 per week (equal to 16 hours at the National Minimum or Living Wage) each

For children aged 0-11 or until 16 if the child has a disability.

For parents who aren't receiving Tax Credits, Universal Credit or childcare vouchers

For every £8 a parent pays into an online account, the government will add an extra £2, **up to £2,000 per child per year**-or £4,000 each year if the child has a disability.

- Digital by default service.
- There is a step-by-step guide to support parents <https://www.gov.uk/get-tax-free-childcare>
- TFC accounts are for each child not per household.
- Top up is per child not per household.
- Parents must confirm their details are up to date every three months.

TFC is not just about under 5s and childcare...

Private, voluntary and school run wraparound care before or after school clubs

Childminders, Playgroups, Nurseries and other group providers

Registered holiday providers

England only, once registered on Ofsted's voluntary register

Uniformed youth organisations

Open-access youth providers for example, centre-based and detached youth work

Extra curricular clubs or settings for example:

- Ballet classes
- Sports clubs
- Music tuition
- Martial arts
- Drama classes

Complementary schools; those offering support or education in addition to the mainstream, learning, operating after school hours or at the weekend

[Find more information on eligibility](#)

How to use Tax-Free Childcare

For every £8 you pay in, the government will automatically add £2, up to the value of £2,000 per child per year (or £4,000 for disabled children).

1 Check you're eligible

You can't use Tax-Free Childcare together with **Tax Credits**, **Universal Credit Childcare** or **Childcare Vouchers**.

[Find out if you are eligible](#)

2 Apply for Tax-Free Childcare

If eligible, you'll get an online childcare account.

[Apply for Tax-Free Childcare](#)

3 Select your childcare provider(s)

Your childcare provider(s) must sign up to receive Tax-Free Childcare payments.

4 Pay money into your Childcare Account

You can deposit money into your childcare account using a debit card, but it's quicker by standing order or bank transfer. We'll add the government top up automatically and you can use this money when it shows as 'available'.

5 Pay your childcare provider(s)

Use the money in your childcare account, including the government top up, to make one off or regular payments to your childcare provider(s).

6 Reconfirm

To continue getting the government top-up, you must confirm your details are up to date every **3 months**.

You will receive a **reminder** to do this.



Help for Households

<https://www.childcarechoices.gov.uk/how-use-tax-free-childcare>

The government is offering help for households. Check what cost of living support you could be eligible for at [gov.uk/helpforhouseholds](https://www.gov.uk/helpforhouseholds)

Providers - signing up and using TFC

How to sign up to TFC

- Register with a regulator
- Regulator forwards information to HMRC.
- A letter is generally issued within approximately 15 days.
- Registration letters can only be sent direct to the childcare setting and not an alternative address.
- Lost ID numbers - Please call the childcare service helpline on 0300 123 4097.
- Making changes to account details - <https://www.gov.uk/guidance/sign-in-to-your-childcare-provider-account-for-tax-free-childcare>

Once providers have signed up for TFC

Providers can:

- Accept TFC payments and get a childcare provider account which is used to keep details up to date
- Manage payments online 24/7 (using the provider account)
- Delegate – access to someone else to manage it.
- Promote the financial benefits to customers
- Continue to accept payments from parents using childcare vouchers and other methods

Why providers should know about TFC and other childcare support

Supports providers with increasing fee structures and income generation.

Some parents will specifically search for providers registered for TFC to benefit from the scheme when looking for childcare.

TFC and UC can be used for upfront costs and retainers.

Parents can use to pay for additional childcare costs above funded hours (Early Years).

Parents can save TFC across the year to reduce holiday childcare costs.



Resources

**Tax-Free
Childcare
webinar for all
activity and
childcare
providers**

**Hempsall's
(03.05.23)**

[Here](#)



The slide features a white background on the left and a blue background on the right. The title 'Childcare Choices' is centered, with 'Childcare' in grey and 'Choices' in colorful, bubbly letters. The right side contains text about a webinar on Tax-Free Childcare, dated 3 May 2023. A dark purple footer bar at the bottom contains the text 'Slides will be shared by email later' and the 'hempsall's' logo.

**Childcare
Choices**

**All you need to
know about Tax-
Free Childcare – a
back to basics
webinar for all
activity and
childcare providers.**

3 May 2023

Slides will be shared by email later

hempsall's

Guidance and resources for providers and parents

Here

The screenshot shows the 'Guidance Zone' on the Childcare Choices website. At the top, there are navigation links: 'Childcare Choices', 'UK Government', 'Childcare expansion', 'Combining schemes', 'Universal Credit Childcare', '15 & 30 hours support', 'Tax-Free Childcare', and 'Guidance and resources'. The main content area is a grid of 12 resource cards, each with a 'Download' button:

- Childcare entitlements frequently asked questions for parents**: Includes a table with columns for 'Childcare provider', 'Childcare type', 'Childcare hours', and 'Childcare costs'.

Childcare provider	Childcare type	Childcare hours	Childcare costs
Childcare provider	Childcare type	Childcare hours	Childcare costs
Childcare provider	Childcare type	Childcare hours	Childcare costs
Childcare provider	Childcare type	Childcare hours	Childcare costs
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Childcare provider	Childcare type	Childcare hours	Childcare costs
Childcare provider	Childcare type	Childcare hours	Childcare costs
- Tax-Free Childcare FAQ**
- Customer digital journey - Tax-Free Childcare and 30 hours Childcare**
- Parent guide to Tax-Free Childcare**
- Provider guide to Tax-Free Childcare**
- Local Authority guide to Tax-Free Childcare**
- Employer guide to Tax-Free Childcare**
- MONEY TOWARDS CHILDCARE: Are 15 or 30 hours childcare schemes?**
- Overview of childcare offers**
- ARIAN TUAG AT OFAL PLANT: Multi-benefit garden at Ofal plant**
- Troubling a gylgion gofal plant**
- Customer Journey and Information**
- Customer Journey (NI, Scotland and Wales)**
- How to apply for 30 hours as a foster parent**

Information for Childcare providers

Schemes, guidance and resources.

Tax-Free Childcare

Tax-Free Childcare is a UK wide offer. Eligible working parents with children 11 or under can get up to £2,000 per child, per year, towards their childcare costs (or up to £4,000 for disabled children 16 or under).

You will only be able to receive Tax-Free Childcare payments from your customers if you've signed up to Tax-Free Childcare.

[Learn about Tax-Free Childcare](#)

30 hours free childcare

30 hours childcare is available to eligible working families of 3 and 4 year olds in England. This is an additional 15 hours on top of the 15 hours available to all parents of three and four year olds. Just like the 15 hours entitlement, you do not have to offer 30 hours childcare.

From April 2024, even more eligible working parents in England will be eligible to get help with their childcare costs.

[Learn about 30 hours free](#)

Guidance and resources

Guidance, tools and resources made for you.

Here you can find useful email templates, leaflets, posters and social media content.

[Check guidance and resources](#)


Resources

Leaflet translations

Download our campaign leaflet in different languages.

[View leaflet translations](#)


Did you know that childcare support is expanding?



Expansion poster (without crops)

[Download](#)

Did you know that childcare support is expanding?




Expansion poster (with crops)

[Download](#)

Looking for support with childcare costs?

Get help that fits your family so you can




Plain text poster (without crops)

[Download](#)


Looking for support with childcare costs?

Get help that fits your family so you can




Plain text poster (with crops)

[Download](#)




A5 leaflet (without crops)

[Download](#)




A5 leaflet (with crops)

[Download](#)



A3 poster (without crops)

[Download](#)



A3 poster (with crops)

[Download](#)

Leaflet translations

Download our campaign leaflet in different languages.

Leaflet - Arabic

[Download](#)

Leaflet - Bangla

[Download](#)

Leaflet - Gujarati

[Download](#)

Leaflet - Italian

[Download](#)

Leaflet - Polish

[Download](#)

Leaflet - Portuguese

[Download](#)

Leaflet - Punjabi

[Download](#)

Leaflet - Romanian

[Download](#)

Leaflet - Spanish

[Download](#)

Leaflet - Ukrainian

[Download](#)

Leaflet - Urdu

[Download](#)

Help for Households

The government is offering help for households. Check what cost of living support you could be eligible for at [gov.uk/help-for-households](https://www.gov.uk/help-for-households)

Sample social media posts: Tax-Free Childcare

Tax-Free Childcare can unlock thousands of pounds of support for your families, remind your parents this support can be used alongside 30 hours. It can also be used for children up to 11 or 16 if disabled. Here are some graphics and suggested accompanying messages, that you can edit, to explain Tax-Free Childcare to parents and carers. You can tag us using #ChildcareChoices and #HelpforHouseholds

1

Social media graphic:



Want up to £2,000 a year for each child, to help with the costs of childcare?

Don't miss out on Tax-Free Childcare next term. Visit www.childcarechoices.gov.uk/

2

Social media graphic:



Claiming Tax-Free Childcare means up to £2,000 a year, to help cover the cost of

(provider to insert relevant offer e.g.):

- 👤 breakfast clubs
- 👶 nurseries
- 🎨 after-school clubs

Visit www.childcarechoices.gov.uk/

3

Social media graphic:



Does your child go to our before and after school clubs? Or go to a sports or holiday club?

Open a Tax-Free Childcare account for help with costs.

Visit www.childcarechoices.gov.uk/

4

Social media graphic:



We know childcare isn't just for toddlers, so Tax-Free Childcare can help you cover costs of childcare for children up to 11, or 16 for children with a disability.

Don't miss out on what you're entitled to, visit www.childcarechoices.gov.uk/

[Download graphics, videos, and case studies for your social channels here](#)

Sample social media posts: Universal Credit Childcare

Once childcare providers have registered with the relevant regulator, working parents on Universal Credit can claim back up to 85% of their childcare costs and receive as much as £1,015 per month for one child or £1,739 for two or more children. There is support available for parents who might need it to pay their costs upfront. Help us to inform parents and guardians on Universal Credit about this support with the following graphics and suggested accompanying messages that you can edit and use on your own channels. You can tag us using #ChildcareChoices and #HelpforHouseholds.

1

Social media graphic:



If you are a working parent and claiming Universal Credit, you could get help with up to 85% of your childcare costs. with Universal Credit, depending on your income.

Find out more at www.childcarechoices.gov.uk/

2

Social media graphic:



Looking to fit work around your family? Universal Credit can help provide support with childcare costs.

Find out more at www.childcarechoices.gov.uk/

3

Social media graphic:



Parents, additional help with initial childcare costs is available with Universal Credit when you enter work or increase your hours.

Find out more at www.childcarechoices.gov.uk/

[Download graphics, videos, and case studies for your social channels here](#)

NEW: Sample social media posts: Wraparound Childcare

Help us to inform parents that before and after school childcare, also known as **wraparound childcare**, is expanding for primary school age children in England and that they have the right to request it. They can do so in writing to their child's school, be it by letter or e-mail via school-run parent survey. To find out more about their wraparound options, **parents can talk to their child's school or the Family Information Service in their local authority.**

Use the following graphics and post copies to spread the word on your channels. You can tag us using #ChildcareChoices and #HelpforHouseholds.

1

Social media graphic:



From September, even more parents of primary school children in England will be able to access before and after-school childcare such as regular provision that runs between 8am and 6pm or later.

If eligible, you can use Tax-Free Childcare or Universal Credit Childcare to help pay for wraparound childcare.

Speak to your child's school or local authority's Family Information Service to find out more.

2

Social media graphic:



To support more working families, from September, parents of primary school children in England can expect to see an increase in wraparound childcare.

This includes regular before and after school provision that run from 8am until 6pm or later, either on a school site or at another local setting.

Speak to your child's school or local authority's Family Information Service to find out more.

Social media graphics with logo placeholder for Local Authorities



[Download the wraparound graphics for your channels here](#)

Using the learning from what has worked:

- Ensure TFC and childcare support is included in strategic plans for wrap-around childcare and the early years entitlements.
- Use the communication routes that work locally.
- Use the Childcare Choices resources.
- Differentiate messages so they are understood and relevant to the audience.
- Share information in bitesize/usable sections rather than sending in their entirety.
- Drip feed information – keep childcare support on the agenda by repeating messages and information.
- Ensure providers know where to signpost parents if they need specialist advice – Welfare teams, Employers for Childcare etc.
- Review and refresh information on websites, the Family Information Service, social media and digital platforms regularly.
- Support providers to see the childcare support as an integral part of their business plan and ensure providers understand how childcare support can help them with business sustainability.

5 ways you can support the Childcare Choices campaign

- **Share the [Childcare Choices website](#)** with parents and let them know it helps them find the right offers of childcare support in one place. They can also use the website to check the support they might be eligible for.
- **Encourage parents to sign up to the [Childcare Choices newsletter](#)** to receive updates, including more information about the changes coming from April.
- **Use the templates and resources included in the Partner communications [toolkit](#) April – September 2024** to promote the campaign across your channels.
- **Help inspire more parents to access the offers by bringing their stories to life.** If you know parents who might be willing to share their childcare experience with us, please contact childcare.choices@education.gov.uk
- **Share our social media posts** about the campaign from the @DfE, @DWP, and @HMRC accounts:
 - **DfE:** [Facebook](#), [X \(Twitter\)](#), [Instagram](#)
 - **DWP:** [Facebook](#), [X \(Twitter\)](#), [Instagram](#)
 - **HMRC:** [Facebook](#), [X \(Twitter\)](#), [Instagram](#)

If you have any questions or comments about the campaign, please contact: childcare.choices@education.gov.uk

Thank you for your support!

Insert QR code