

28th June 2021

### 30 hours tax free childcare

Dear Parents and Carers,

St Bede's Catholic Primary School is pleased to announce that from September 2021, it will be offering 30 hours tax free childcare.

Eligibility is available for parents on the HMRC 30 hours free childcare website.

Please click on the link to check your eligibility and apply <https://www.gov.uk/30-hours-free-childcare>

Please follow the steps carefully and once completed, you will be issued with an 11-digit validation code.

You will then need to bring the validation code, your national insurance number and child's birth certificate into the school's office. Your eligibility will then be verified with the Local Authority. Each child that qualifies is entitled to 30 hours per week tax free childcare. **Please be aware that we are only able to confirm the offer of a 30-hour place once we (school) have verified the eligibility code provided by HMRC.**

The 30 hours tax free childcare will be available for your child from the term after their 3<sup>rd</sup> birthday.

The 30 hours provision does not cover lunchtime supervision therefore we will be charging £3 per day for lunchtime supervision with the **additional cost of a school dinner** (£2.10 a day) or you can provide your child with a healthy packed lunch. School lunches will need to be booked and paid in advance on the Monday of that week via Parent Pay.

If you have any queries, please do not hesitate to contact the school office by telephone (01642 485217) or through the enquiries email: [enquiries@stbedes.npcat.org.uk](mailto:enquiries@stbedes.npcat.org.uk)

Yours sincerely,

Mrs Brown, Mrs Matthias and Miss Ellis

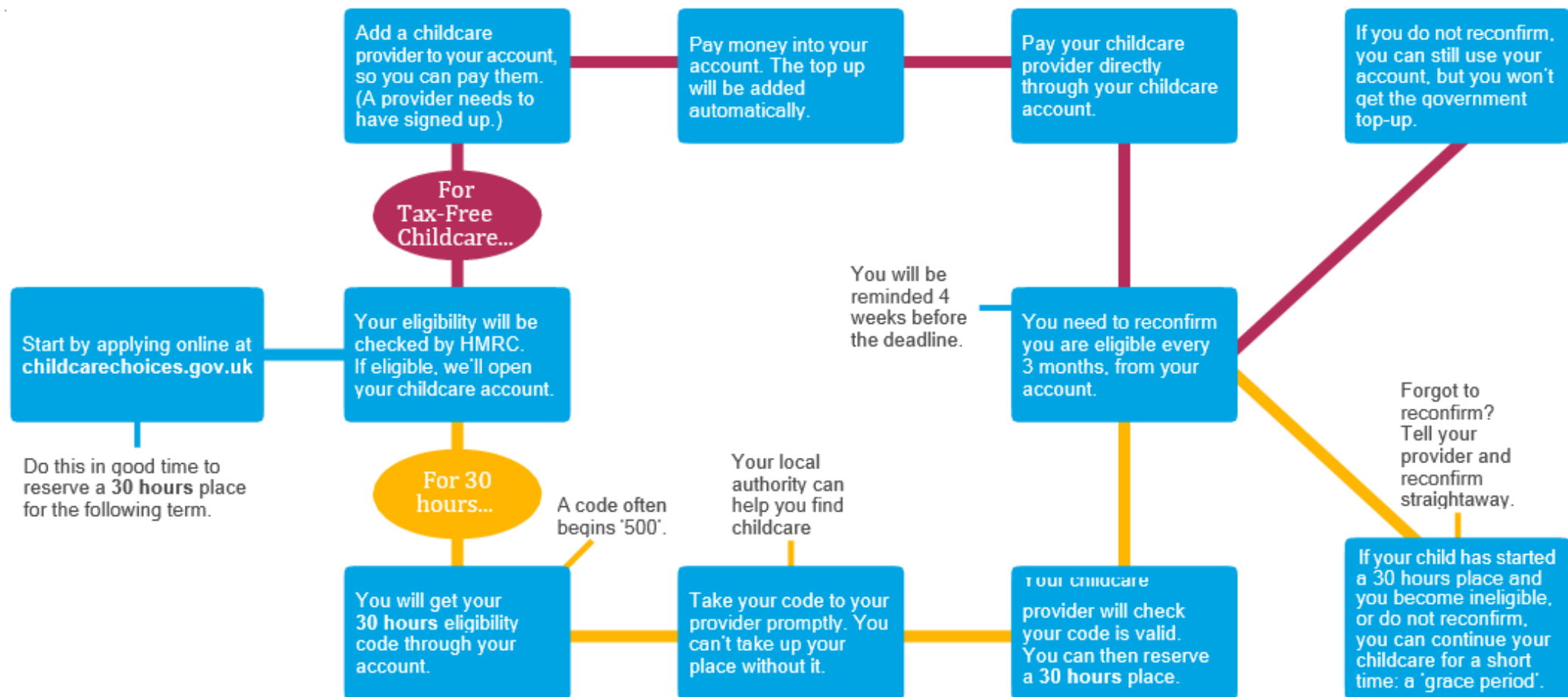
Senior Leadership Team

*Welcome - Love - Inspire - Respect - Patience - Community*

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# How to apply for 30 hours and Tax-Free Childcare

Use the joint application for both Tax-Free Childcare and 30 hours. Follow the steps below to get the most out of your childcare account and to access your 30 hours code.



Check your childcare options at [childcarechoices.gov.uk](http://childcarechoices.gov.uk) |

# About the government's new childcare offers

## What is Tax-Free Childcare?

Tax-Free Childcare is a government scheme to support working parents with childcare costs.

For every £8 you pay in, the government will pay in an extra £2. You can get up to £2,000 per child per year, or £4,000 for disabled children.

## What is 30 hours?

Working parents of 3 and 4 year olds in England may be entitled to up to 30 hours of childcare, for 38 weeks of the year (or fewer hours over more weeks). This is an additional 15 hours of childcare on top of the 15 hours universal entitlement for all 3 and 4 year olds in England.

## Am I eligible?

Find out if you are eligible at [childcarechoices.gov.uk](http://childcarechoices.gov.uk). The website also has a Childcare Calculator where you can learn more about which government offers might be best for you.

## How do I apply?

You can apply via [childcarechoices.gov.uk](http://childcarechoices.gov.uk)

You, and your partner, if you have one, will need your:

- National Insurance number(s)
- Details of one or more of the following - your UK Passport, tax credits, P60 or a recent payslip.

In some cases, additional checks may be needed to confirm whether you're eligible, so it's important to apply in good time. If you are found ineligible we will tell you why.

## When can my child access a 30 hours place?

You can claim 30 hours from the term after:

- your child turns three, and
- the date you receive your eligibility code from HMRC. Whichever date is later.

We recommend that you apply in good time, so that you **receive your code the term before your child becomes eligible**. You can apply up to 16 weeks before your child turns three.

## Will I have to pay for additional charges if I am using 30 hours?

Just like at school, your childcare provider can charge for additional services, for example, lunch, trips or music classes. These charges cannot be a condition of accessing your 30 hours place and alternative arrangements should be made available. Any charges should be itemised and cannot be a supplementary 'top-up'. You should speak to your provider for further information about any additional charges.

## Is 30 hours only available in term time or all year round?

Like the existing 15 hours, eligible parents are entitled to a maximum of 30 hours a week in each of the 38 weeks of the academic year. However, you can stretch this offer over the year, for instance, you can take 22 hours a week for 52 weeks, or just under 24 hours for 48 weeks. You should speak to your provider about how they are offering 30 hours.

## Can I use Tax-Free Childcare at the same time as 30 hours?

Yes, you can get Tax-Free Childcare and 30 hours at the same time. You can't get Tax-Free Childcare at the same time as tax credits, childcare vouchers or Universal Credit but you can get 30 hours alongside these schemes.

## I don't have access to the internet. How do I apply?

If you need assistance or do not have access to the internet, you can call the childcare service helpline on **0300 123 4097** and apply over the phone.

