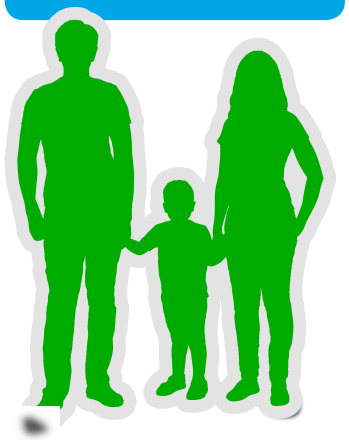
# Your new childcare account

Do this in good time to reserve a **30 hours** place for the following term.

Apply for **30 hours** free childcare and Tax-Free Childcare online from **childcarechoices.gov.uk**



Your eligibility will be checked by HMRC. If eligible, we'll open your childcare account.

For Tax-Free Childcare...

Add a childcare provider to your account, so you can pay them. (A provider needs to have signed up.)

Pay money into your account. The top up will be added automatically.

Pay your childcare provider directly through your childcare account. Payments are made using Bacs.

If you do not reconfirm, you can still use your account, but you won't get the government top-up.

You will be reminded 4 weeks before the deadline.

You need to reconfirm you are eligible every 3 months, from your account.

Your child can continue in their **30 hours** place for another 3 months, before reconfirming again.

Forgot to reconfirm? Tell your provider and reconfirm straightaway.

If your child has started a 30 hours place and you become ineligible, or do not reconfirm, you can continue your childcare for a short time: a 'grace period'.

Your childcare provider will check your code is valid. You can then reserve a **30 hours** place.

Take your code to your provider promptly. You can't take up a free place without it.

Give this code to your childcare provider, or your local authority can help you find childcare.

A code often begins '500'.

For 30 hours...

You will get your **30 hours** eligibility code through your account.

Check your childcare options at **childcarechoices.gov.uk**

Childcare Choices

HM Government