



## **HMRC can help towards the cost of children's summer holiday activities**

HM Revenue and Customs (HMRC) is reminding working families in London that they can use Tax-Free Childcare to help pay for their childcare costs over the summer.

Tax-Free Childcare – a childcare top-up for working parents – can be used to help pay for accredited holiday clubs, childminders or sports activities – giving parents and carers that extra peace of mind that their child is having fun during the school summer holidays and it can save them money.

Tax-Free Childcare is available for children aged up to 11, or 17 if the child has a disability. And for every £8 deposited into an account, families will receive an additional £2 in government top-up, capped at £500 every three months, or £1,000 if the child is disabled.

Parents and carers can check their eligibility and [register for Tax-Free Childcare via GOV.UK](#). They can apply for an account at any time and start using it straight away. By depositing money into their accounts, families can benefit from the 20% top-up and use the money to pay for childcare costs when they need to, for example, during the summer holidays.

Myrtle Lloyd, HMRC's Director General for Customer Services, said:

“We want to help kids stay active this summer, whether they are going to summer holiday clubs or a childminder. A childcare top-up will go a long way towards helping parents plan and pay for summer activities to keep their kids happy and healthy.

“To find out more search ‘tax-free childcare’ on GOV.UK.”

30,665 working families used their account in March 2021 in London. And in the same month, HMRC paid out more than £33 million in top-up payments, which was shared between more than 282,000 families across the UK.

Tax-Free Childcare is also available for pre-school aged children attending nurseries, childminders or other childcare providers. Families with younger children will often have higher childcare costs than families with older children, so the tax-free savings can really make a difference.

Childcare providers can also sign up for a [childcare provider account via GOV.UK](#) to receive payments from parents and carers via the scheme.

### Notes for Editors

1. Visit GOV.UK for further information on [Tax-Free Childcare](#)
2. Latest [Tax-Free Childcare statistics](#) were released on 19 May 2021. Data is available up to 31 March 2021
3. Each eligible child requires their own Tax-Free Childcare account. If families have more than one eligible child, they will need to register an account for each child. The 20% government top-up is then applied to deposits made for each child, not household
4. Account holders must confirm their details are up to date every three months to continue receiving the government top-up
5. Follow HMRC's Press Office on Twitter [@HMRCpressoffice](#)

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