



HM Government

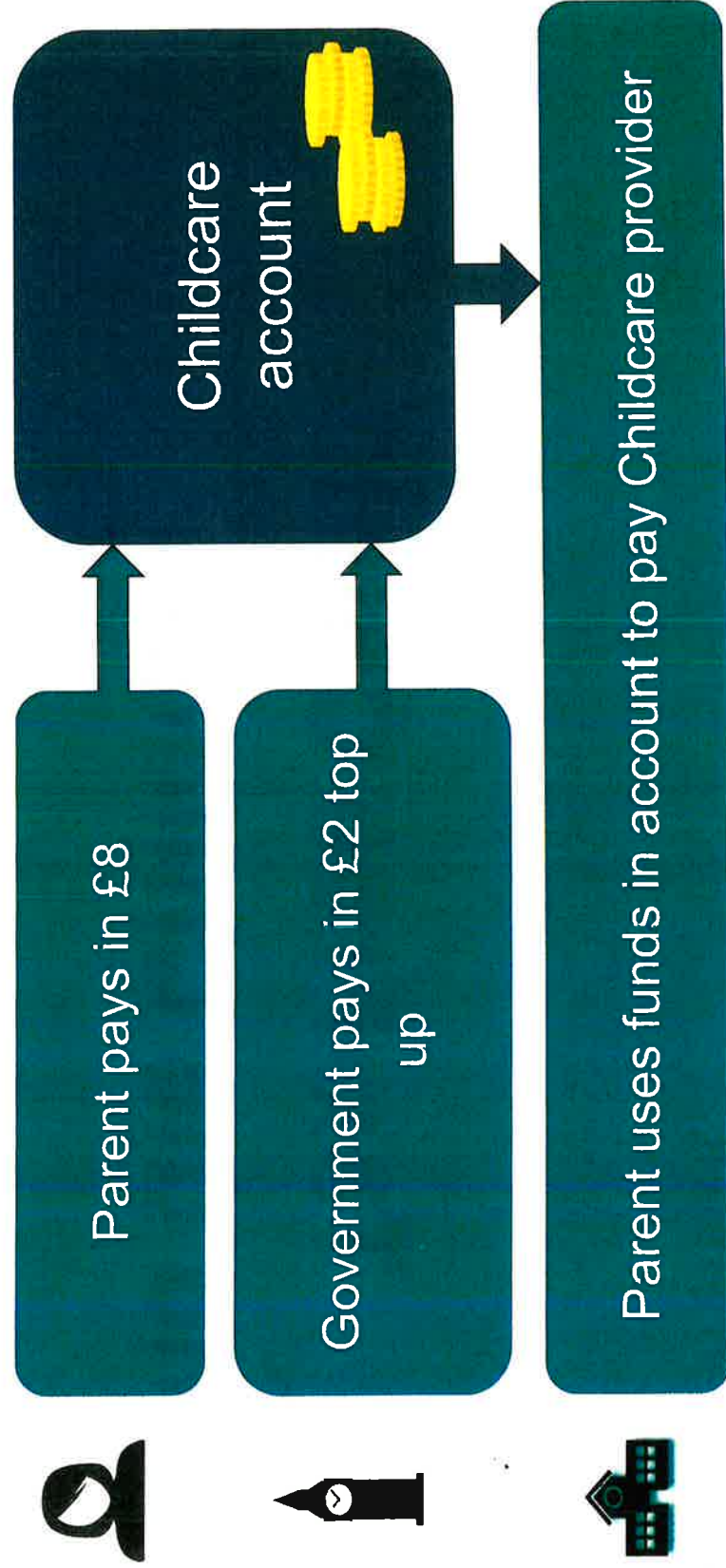
Childcare  
**Choices**

# Tax-Free Childcare and the Childcare Service



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# How does Tax-Free Childcare work?



## Qualifying childcare costs

- **Registered** childcare
- **Extras**, such as lunches or trips, where they're part of the childcare costs
- Childcare when you're
  - **sleeping** after a night shift
  - **travelling** to and from work



- The following childcare does not qualify. Care provided by:
  - you or your partner (if you have one)
  - the child's other parent, foster or step-parent
  - anyone else with parental responsibility.



# Eligibility

## Parents

IN WORK



Both parents must be in work (or one for single parent households)

NOT CLAIMING UC/TC



Neither parent can be in receipt of tax credits or Universal Credit

£125



The minimum amount parents must expect to earn each week

## Children

Under 12



Under 17



Lives with you



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## What parents need to do

- Go to <https://www.gov.uk/get-tax-free-childcare>
- Use the step by step guide to apply. They'll need:
  - a form of ID (passport or P60)
  - their National Insurance number
  - their partner's National Insurance number (if they have one)
- Use their childcare account to pay their provider
- Sign into their account to **reconfirm** their details **every three months**



# How the offers interact

With...	Tax-Free Childcare	Can you get...	15 hours	30 hours	Tax credits*	Universal Credit*	Childcare vouchers**
Tax-Free Childcare							
15 hours	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
30 hours	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
*Tax credits	✗	✓	✓	✓	✗	✗	✓
*Universal Credit	✗	✓	✓	✓	✗	✗	✓
Childcare vouchers**	✗	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓

\* 15 and 30 hours childcare and childcare vouchers will reduce a parent's overall tax credit or universal credit award.

\*\* Childcare Vouchers closed to new entrants on 4 October 2018.



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## What providers need when they sign up

- Their user ID from their invitation letter
- Their bank account details
- Their 10-digit Unique Taxpayer Reference (UTR) and the postcode linked to this UTR
- Or their National Insurance number, if employed, for example as a nanny

Providers should call the childcare service helpline on **0300 123 4097** if they're having problems signing up.



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## Useful information

- Apply for Tax-Free childcare at: [www.gov.uk/get-childcare](http://www.gov.uk/get-childcare)
- Sign up as a childcare provider at: [www.gov.uk/childcare-provider-tax-free-scheme](http://www.gov.uk/childcare-provider-tax-free-scheme)
- See what government help you can get with childcare at: [www.childcarechoices.gov.uk/](http://www.childcarechoices.gov.uk/)
- Childcare service helpline: 0300 123 4097



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