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# Apply for free childcare for foster children

* Existing - Free 30 hours for 3-4 Year Olds (Working Foster Carers)
* New - Free 15 hours for 9 month olds from September 2024 (Working Foster Carers)

Speak to the child’s Social Worker/Virtual School before applying. If they agree, complete this form.

Once you and your partner (if you have one) have signed, the form must be counter-signed by Jacqueline Evans (Principal Fostering Manager). Pease see attached guidance document.

If your application is successful, you will get your eligibility code through email from the Social Worker/Fostering Team.

If you need more help contact Gemma Donaldson via [virtual.school@halton.gov.uk](mailto:virtual.school@halton.gov.uk)

This form is only for foster parents. If you are applying for your own children use the childcare service: [www.gov.uk/help-with-childcare-costs](http://www.gov.uk/help-with-childcare-costs).

## Section 1 – About you

1.1 Your details:

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **Title** |  |
| **First name** |  |
| **Last name** |  |
| **Date of birth (DD/MM/YYYY)** |  |
| **National Insurance number** |  |
| **Address** |  |
| **Postcode** |  |
| **Email address** |  |

We need your address and email to send your free childcare eligibility code.

Please tick the relevant box for each question.

1.2 Are you a foster parent of the children named in this form?

Check boxYes

check boxNo

1.3 Do you and the children live in England?

check boxYes

check boxNo

If no, speak to your local council about what childcare schemes are available in your area.

1.4 Are you a British/Irish national?

check boxYes

check boxNo

1.5 If you have answered “no” to 1.3:

Have you acquired settled or pre-settled status through the EU Settlement Scheme (EUSS);

Have you made an application through the EUSS and are waiting for a decision, or;

Are you appealing a decision on your EUSS application?

1.6 Are you subject to immigration rules that prevent you from receiving public funds?

check boxYes

check boxNo

## Section 2 – your employment details

2.1 Are you employed or self-employed outside your fostering responsibilities?

check boxYes

check boxNo

You can still answer yes if you are employed or self-employed but not currently working (for example, if you are on parental leave or sick leave), or if you expect to start or re-start work in the next 31 days.

2.2. Do you expect to earn more than £100,000 in this tax year (April to March)?

check box
Yes

check boxNo

If your income is over this amount you cannot get the working parent free childcare entitlement.

2.3 If you are **not** employed outside your fostering responsibilities, select any that apply to you:

check box For Universal Credit purposes, I am assessed as having limited capability for work

check box I receive National Insurance credits because of incapacity or limited capability for work

check box I receive a Carer’s Allowance

check box I receive an Employment and Support Allowance

check box I receive Incapacity Benefit

check box I receive a Severe Disablement Allowance

If you get one of these benefits you may still be able to get the working parent free childcare entitlement if you have a partner who holds additional employment outside their role as foster carer.

2.4 Do you have a partner who lives with you?

check boxYes

check boxNo

A person is your partner if you are married or in a civil partnership, and live together in the same household, or a couple who live together as if you are married or in a civil partnership.

If **Yes**: go to section 3.

If **No**: skip to section 5.

## Section 3 – your partner

3.1 Your partner’s details

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **Title** |  |
| **First name** |  |
| **Last name** |  |
| **Date of birth (DD/MM/YYYY)** |  |
| **National Insurance number** |  |

3.2 Is your partner also a foster parent?

check boxYes

check boxNo

If **Yes**: go to section 4.

If **No**: please contact your local authority (see page 1) who will help you further.

## Section 4 – partner’s employment details

4.1 Is your partner employed or self-employed outside their fostering responsibilities?

Check boxYes

Check box No

You can still answer yes if they are not currently working. For example, they are on parental leave or sick leave, or expect to start or re-start work in the next 31 days.

4.2 Does your partner expect their total taxable income in this tax year (April to March) to be more than £100,000?

Check box Yes

Check box No

If their income is over this amount you cannot get the working parent free childcare entitlement

Now go to section 5.

## Section 5 – the children who will get free childcare

If you are fostering non-related children who could both be eligible for the working parent free childcare entitlement you will need to complete a separate form for each child.

5.1 Foster children’s details:

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **First name** | **Last name** | **Date of birth (DD/MM/YYYY)** | **When do you expect the child in foster care to join a school reception year?**  **MM/YYYY** |
|  |  |  |  |
|  |  |  |  |
|  |  |  |  |

## Section 6 – declaration

6.1 Your declaration:

I declare that I am applying for the working parent free childcare entitlement to enable me to work outside of fostering, and that the information I have given on this form is correct and complete.

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **Signature** |  |
| **Date (DD/MM/YYYY)** |  |

6.2 Your partner’s declaration:

I declare that I am applying for the working parent free childcare entitlement to enable me to work outside of fostering, and that the information I have given on this form is correct and complete.

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **Your partner’s signature** |  |
| **Date (DD/MM/YYYY)** |  |

## Section 7 – Principal Fostering Manager declaration

Before Halton Borough Council can issue you with a code, this form must be counter-signed by Jacqueline Evans (Principal Fostering Manager).

I declare that I have seen evidence of employment outside fostering, and I am satisfied that the foster parent(s) engaging in paid work other than as a foster parent is consistent with the care plan(s) for the foster child(ren) listed in this application.

7.1 I confirm that I support this application for the working parent free childcare entitlement in respect of the foster child(ren) listed in this application.

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **Signature** |  |
| **Position and contact details** |  |
| **Date (DD/MM/YYYY)** |  |

| Data protection statement  [Insert local authority data protection statement here.] |
| --- |

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