

As Explore Learning is registered on the Ofsted Voluntary Childcare Register, our members can benefit from schemes to support families with their membership costs.

What is Tax Free Childcare?

Tax Free Childcare is an initiative from the government that was launched in Spring 2017. Eligible families will be able to receive support with 20% of their childcare costs. This means, for every £8 parents pay in, the government will pay in £2 (up to £2000 per child per year) to cover costs of approved childcare, like Explore Learning.

Am I eligible?

To be eligible for Tax Free Childcare, both parents need to be working and earning over £140 per week and no more than £100,000 per year, including self-employed parents. The scheme is available for children up to the age of 12.

Full eligibility criteria can be found at:

<https://childcare-support.tax.service.gov.uk/par/app/eligibility>



First, you'll need to register through the government website <https://childcare-support.tax.service.gov.uk/>. Once you've registered, you can open online accounts for each of your children. When you log in, you'll be able to view all your children's accounts at once. Ensure that you are regularly depositing funds to cover your Explore Learning membership fees (stated overleaf) via bank transfer, you can also set up a standing order.

Your funds will be 'topped up' by the government within 3 working days of making the deposit. Once logged into your Tax Free Childcare account you'll be able to search for your Explore Learning centre and **set up a payment for the 1st of the month**, with the frequency set to monthly. Your payments may could take 3-5 working days to reach us after the payment date.

Each child will have a Unique Reference Number with Tax Free Childcare – you'll need to let us know this number when you're making your first payment so we that we can link this number to your account. You'll only need to provide us with the reference number once.

Why do I need to give you my Direct Debit details?

When families join the Tax Free Childcare scheme it can take several weeks for you to be ready to make your first payment. In the meantime, we'd love you to start having sessions so we'll set up a Direct Debit. If you let us know once you've made the first transfer from your government childcare account to Explore Learning, we'll be able to refund any double payments and cancel future Direct Debit payments.

Why do I need to call you once I have made the first payment?

The only way we'll be able to allocate your payment to your family's account is if we know your child's Unique Reference Number. Providing us with this will help us to identify the payment once it reaches us so we can get it allocated as quickly as possible. Once you have provided us with this reference number once, we'll store it in the system so you shouldn't have to provide it to us again.

What happens if my membership price changes?

During your membership you may choose to change your membership package or earn discounts for referring friends. We'll confirm any changes with you and you will then need to amend the amount you send over to us to keep on track with your payments.

Why can't I use Tax Free Childcare to pay for the Joining Fee?

The Joining Fee for Explore Learning is not considered a childcare cost, therefore we are unable to accept Tax Free Childcare for this payment.

WHAT YOU'LL NEED TO KNOW TO MAKE THE PAYMENTS:

Monthly membership amount:	Explore Learning address and regulator registration number e.g. Ofsted
£	
£	
£	
£	
£	
£	

WHAT WE'LL NEED TO KNOW
TO ALLOCATE YOUR PAYMENTS...

