For more information about support with childcare costs scan this QR code

Info for working parents

Lincolnshire County Council
Working for a better future

How to apply for funded childcare and Tax Free Childcare

Start by applying online at www.beststartinlife.gov.uk

Do this before the termly deadline: 31st March, 31st August and 31st December

You can apply from when your child is 23 weeks old or within 31 days of returning to work (if later). When you can get your hours from will depend on the date your child turns 9 months old and when you received your eligibility code.

Your eligibility will be checked by HMRC. If eligible, HMRC will open an account for you

For Tax Free Childcare

Add a childcare provider to your account so you can pay them

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

Pay your childcare provider directly through your childcare account

If you do not reconfirm, you will not get the government top up

For funded childcare

You will receive your eligibility code through your account

Take your code to your provider

Your childcare provider will check your code is valid. You can then reserve your place

Your local authority can help you find childcare
www.lincsfamilydirectory.org.uk

Codes are 11 digits long and normally begin with '50....'

Children will be able to start funded childcare from the term after they reach the relevant age of eligibility

You need to reconfirm you are eligible every 3 months

You will be reminded 4 weeks before the deadline

Forgot to reconfirm? Tell your provider and reconfirm online straight away

If your child has started a funded place and you become ineligible or do not reconfirm, you can continue your funded childcare for a short time during the 'grace period'

Your child cannot start to access funded childcare or change providers in the grace period.

BEST START IN LIFE