



# Northumberland County Council

## Application Form 30 Hours Free Childcare for Foster Children

### Extending 30 hours to Children in Foster Care

In December 2017, government announced plans to extend eligibility for 30 hours childcare to children in foster care where the foster parents meet certain eligibility criteria, giving foster families the same support as other families where it is right for the child. Children in foster care will be able to receive 30 hours free childcare, if the following criteria are met:

- That accessing the extended hours is consistent with the child's care plan, placing the child at the centre of the process and decision making, and
- That, in single parent foster families, the foster parent engages in paid work outside their role as a foster parent.
- And in two parent foster families, both partners engage in paid work outside their role as a foster parent. If one partner is not a foster parent then they must be in qualifying paid work and earn a minimum of the equivalent to 16 hours at national minimum/national living wage.

The application form will be completed by the foster parent and be countersigned by a designated person determined by the responsible local authority to confirm eligibility. Foster parents will be required to reconfirm their eligibility every three months to mirror the existing process and support the work enabling objective of the 30 hours policy. Agreement that the foster parents can take up the extended hours should be recorded and the care plan for the child should be updated as appropriate.

More information can be found [here](#).

### Apply

Speak to the child's social worker before applying. If they agree, complete this form. Once you and your partner (if you have one) have signed, the form must be countersigned by the Family Placement Team Manager. Get more information on accessing free childcare at <https://goo.gl/MyJYKr>.

If your application is successful, you will get your eligibility code from Northumberland County Council Early Years Team. If you need more help contact the Early Years Team 01670 623594 [earlyyearsteam@northumberland.gov.uk](mailto:earlyyearsteam@northumberland.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).

If your partner is not a foster parent you could visit childcare service for more information on childcare costs: [www.gov.uk/help-with-childcare-costs](http://www.gov.uk/help-with-childcare-costs).



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## Section 1 – about you

### 1.1 Your details:

<b>Title</b>	
<b>First Name</b>	
<b>Last Name</b>	
<b>Date of Birth (DD/MM/YYYY)</b>	
<b>National Insurance Number</b>	
<b>Address</b>	
<b>Postcode</b>	
<b>Email Address</b>	

We need your address and email to send your 30 hours free childcare eligibility code.

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

- Yes  
 No

### 1.3 Do you and the children live in England?

- Yes  
 No

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

### 1.3 Are you a European Economic Area (EEA) national?

- Yes  
 No

This means you are from the UK, another European Union member state, Norway, Liechtenstein or Iceland.



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

- Yes  
 No

## Section 2 – your employment details

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

- Yes  
 No

You can still answer yes if you are not currently working. For example, you are on parental leave or sick leave, or 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)?

- Yes  
 No

If your income is over this amount you cannot get 30 hours free childcare.

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

- For Universal Credit purposes, I am assessed as having limited capability for work  
 I receive National Insurance credits because of incapacity or limited capability for work  
 I receive a Carer's Allowance  
 I receive an Employment and Support Allowance  
 I receive Incapacity Benefit  
 I receive a Severe Disablement Allowance

If you get one of these benefits you may still be able to get 30 hours free childcare 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?

- Yes  
 No

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.



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

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

## Section 3 – your partner

### 3.1 Your partner's details

<b>Title</b>	
<b>First Name</b>	
<b>Last Name</b>	
<b>Date of Birth (DD/MM/YYYY)</b>	
<b>National Insurance Number</b>	

### 3.2 Is your partner also a foster parent?

Yes

No

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

If **No**: please visit childcare service for more information on childcare costs:

[www.gov.uk/help-with-childcare-costs](http://www.gov.uk/help-with-childcare-costs).



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## **Section 4 – partner’s employment details**

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

- Yes
- 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?

- Yes
- No

If their income is over this amount you cannot get 30 hours free childcare.

**Now go to section 5.**



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## Section 5 – the children who will get 30 hours free childcare

If you are fostering non-related children who could both be eligible for 30 hours free childcare you will need to complete a separate form for each child.

### 5.1 Foster children 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 30 hours free childcare, to enable me to work outside of fostering, and that the information I have given on this form is correct and complete.

<b>Signature</b>	
<b>Date (DD/MM/YYYY)</b>	

### 6.2 Your partner's declaration:

I declare that I am applying for 30 hours free childcare, to enable me to work outside of fostering, and that the information I have given on this form is correct and complete.

<b>Your Partner's Signature</b>	
<b>Date (DD/MM/YYYY)</b>	



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## Section 7 – [insert responsible authorities designated person] declaration

Before Northumberland County Council can issue you with a code, this form must be countersigned by Christine Logan - Team Manager 01670 624011  
[christine.logan@northumberland.gov.uk](mailto:christine.logan@northumberland.gov.uk)

I declare that I have seen evidence of employment outside fostering, and it has been discussed how this employment is consistent with the care plan for the foster child or children listed in this application.

7.1 I confirm that I support this application for 30 hours free childcare in respect of the foster children listed in this application.

<b>Signature</b>	
<b>Position and Contact details</b>	
<b>Date (DD/MM/YYYY)</b>	

Data protection statement

[\[http://www.northumberland.gov.uk/NorthumberlandCountyCouncil/media/About-the-Council/information%20governance/Northumberland-County-Council-Full-Privacy-Notice.pdf\]](http://www.northumberland.gov.uk/NorthumberlandCountyCouncil/media/About-the-Council/information%20governance/Northumberland-County-Council-Full-Privacy-Notice.pdf)

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