

# A Guide to Tax-Free Childcare & Employer Childcare Voucher Schemes

At NSSport, we aim to make childcare payments as simple and flexible as possible for families. We accept both Tax-Free Childcare and a range of Employer Childcare Voucher schemes, allowing parents and carers to easily cover the cost of eligible services.

#### What You Can Use Childcare Vouchers For:

You can use Tax-Free Childcare or Childcare Vouchers to pay for: After School Care, Breakfast Clubs, Holiday Activities, and INSET Day Programmes. These schemes offer a great way to save money while ensuring your child enjoys safe, high-quality care.

### ★ What Childcare Vouchers Cannot Be Used For:

Please note that we are unable to accept Childcare Vouchers or Tax-Free Childcare for: Birthday Parties and After School Sports Clubs. These activities fall outside the government's criteria for registered childcare services and are therefore not eligible for payment through these schemes.



# What is the difference between Tax-Free Childcare and Employer Childcare Voucher Schemes?

**Tax-Free Childcare** is a government-run scheme introduced in 2017 to support working parents with the cost of childcare. It was designed to gradually replace the older Employer Childcare Voucher Scheme and provide a more flexible solution, particularly for self-employed individuals who were previously excluded. Under the Tax-Free Childcare scheme, eligible working parents can open an online childcare account and receive government contributions worth 20% of their childcare costs - up to £2,000 per child per year. For every £8 a parent pays into the account, the government adds £2. The funds can then be used to pay for approved childcare providers, including nurseries, childminders, after-school clubs, and holiday schemes.

In contrast, the **Employer Childcare Voucher Scheme** was a salary sacrifice arrangement, where employees could choose to receive a portion of their salary in the form of childcare vouchers. These vouchers were exempt from income tax and National Insurance contributions, providing tax savings for both employees and employers. However, eligibility was tied to employment only available through participating employers and the scheme excluded the self-employed. The Employer Childcare Voucher Scheme officially closed to new applicants in October 2018. Parents who were already enrolled by the deadline can continue using vouchers, provided they remain with the same employer and do not take an extended career break. Those who leave their employer or switch jobs lose access to the scheme and must consider Tax-Free Childcare as an alternative.

## How do I make a payment to NSSport using Tax-Free Childcare or the Employer Childcare Voucher Scheme?



Whichever option you use, we hope this guide helps make childcare payments a little more straightforward, flexible, and stress-free for every family who books with NSSport. Thank you for your continued support, we appreciate it.

### Social media

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