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Carer information

Q. What type of carer can use the scheme?

A. Childcare vouchers cover children up to 15 years of age (16 if disabled) and a wide range of childcare providers can be used, the following are just a sample:

Registered childminders, Independent nursery schools, Sessional and day-care playgroups and crèches, Community nurseries, Workplace and partnership workplace nurseries, Local authority day nurseries, Nannies and nanny share schemes, Out of hours schemes on school premises run by the school or local authority, Childcare schemes run by approved providers, Ministry of Defence accredited schemes, approved foster carers as long as the child is not the foster carer's foster child, Out of school schemes run by the school governing bodies that are part of the 'extended schools scheme, Holiday play schemes, Family members undertaking care for you – excluding spouses and partners.

Carers must be registered or be approved by the relevant authorities in England, Scotland, Wales or Northern Ireland to enable the full tax savings to be made.

Remember that if you do not need to be a registered or approved carer at the moment you can apply for voluntary registration to be able to accept vouchers and we can advise you how to do this.

Q. What can the Early Years Vouchers Ltd voucher scheme offer you as a carer?

A. It saves parents significant sums of money providing a strong selling point for parents using you as their main carer and attracting more clients, and helps retain your present client base. More and more parents are looking to make the savings and those carers that do not accept vouchers may be at a serious disadvantage. We offer a very simple and easy system for you to track and control the vouchers and payments made to you.

Q. How does the scheme operate?

A. Employers are allowed to issue childcare vouchers to their employees as part of their salary arrangements. Once registered with us you can accept childcare vouchers given to the parent by their employer. These vouchers are then redeemed from us by you, the process being quick and easy with your own online account, using the free-phone number or using the auto pay system. All we need is a copy of your registration certificate and your bank details for BACS payments. Once you are happy to offer the scheme to the parents, you can download or request posters to promote the scheme to the parents that use your services.

Q. Does the scheme cost the carer at all?

A. Early Years Vouchers Ltd is paid a small service charge by the employer so the scheme costs you, the carer, nothing. It is free to register, there is a free-phone support line (0800 781 1652) for registered carers.

Q. What do I do now?

A. You can register online immediately, or telephone 0800 781 1652 to discuss registration. Make sure you have your EY number or Surestart registration number and your bank details to hand. You are registered immediately and we will need you to post, fax or email a copy of your registration certificate to verify your identity.