

Childcare Support

Further information and additional eligibility criteria

The College offers two types of childcare support:

- Care to Learn (C2L)
- 20+ Childcare Support.

You must be the main carer and be in receipt of Child Benefit for the child or children for whom you are claiming childcare support. If you lose custody of your child or children at any time, even temporarily, you must inform the Financial Support Team immediately.

Where you are in receipt of, or become eligible for, government-funded childcare hours, these hours must be used first. Childcare Support Funds will only contribute towards additional hours beyond the government-funded entitlement and only in line with your college timetable.

Fund	General Eligibility Criteria - (Other Rules Apply)	Additional Information
16-19 Care to Learn (C2L) Childcare Support (Provided through the DfE)	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• You are the main carer and in receipt of Child Benefit for the child or children for whom you are claiming childcare support.	For students aged under 20 at the start of their course.
20+ Childcare Fund (Part of either The DfE, GLCCA or EMCCA 19+ Adult Skills Fund, or the DfE's 19+ Advanced Learner Loan Bursary)	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• You are in receipt of Universal Credit and the total annual net income (assessed earnings and the Universal Credit payment) does not exceed £48,000 per year and,• You are the main carer and in receipt of Child Benefit for the child or children for whom you are claiming childcare support.	For students aged 20 or over at the start of your course.

You may claim childcare support provided that:

- The child or children's other parent is unable to provide childcare, for example because they are in education, in employment, or absent.
- The other parent is not claiming childcare costs through any other funding source, including government-funded early years provision or Childcare Tax Credits.

Your childcare provider must be registered with Ofsted and appropriate for the age of the child or children being cared for. This may include:

- A registered childminder
- A preschool playgroup
- A day nursery
- A breakfast club or after-school club

Childcare payments will be made directly to the childcare provider.

16-19 Care to Learn (C2L) Additional Information:

- You must be under 20 years old on the date you start your study programme. If you become 20 years old during your study programme you can continue to receive funding to the end of that specific study programme, so to the end of the same programme at the same level.
- C2L can provide childcare and travel support up to a maximum of £180.00 per week based on your timetable at college. If your costs exceed the £180.00 Care to Learn maximum, further support will only be available if you meet the eligibility criteria for the Learner Support Fund. If you do not meet the eligibility criteria, it is your responsibility to pay any outstanding balance.
- C2L may pay for travel costs, where appropriate, if these are necessary for you to take your child(ren) between your childcare provider and home. C2L travel costs are only paid if they are not being met from the Learner Support Fund and are additional to your normal travel costs from home to the college.
- C2L can pay for deposits up to a maximum of £250.00 if the childcare provider requires this.
- C2L can pay any registration fees that are charged by your childcare provider, up to a maximum of £80.00 per child. This is a one-off payment and will not be paid for subsequent academic years if you use the same childcare provider.
- C2L may pay a maximum of £180.00 a week towards the cost of a summer retainer fee. This only applies if you finish study in one year and continue your study in the next academic year (other rules apply).

20+ Childcare Support Additional Information:

- The 20+ Childcare Fund, after deductions (e.g. 15 or 30 government funded hours per week), can contribute a maximum award per academic year of £8600.00 (£200 per week) regardless of number of children claimed for and/or childcare providers used.
- You maintain a minimum attendance level of 85%. Any absence must be authorised by your curriculum area. Your support will be at risk if you fail to do this.
- This fund cannot help with deposit fees, registration fees or summer retainer fees.
- Subject to continued eligibility (which must be re-confirmed each academic year) and funds being available, the college will support childcare fees for a maximum of three academic years.
- You cannot receive support from this fund if you receive the Childcare Element of Universal Credit.

