

Care to Learn Funding

Guidance for Learners

This booklet explains **who** can apply, **what's** covered, and **how** to apply.



RUNSHAW COLLEGE

What is ...

... Care to Learn?

- Care to Learn is a **government scheme** that helps young parents **pay for childcare** while they study.
- It can also help cover **extra travel costs** for getting your child to and from childcare.
- If your course includes **work placements**, Care to Learn can **help pay for childcare** during those too.

Who ...

... can apply?

You can apply if:

- You're **under 20 years old** when your course starts.
- You're the **main carer** of your child (and receive Child Benefit for them).
- You live and study in **England**, with the legal right to live here.
- You use a childcare provider who is properly **registered with Ofsted**.
- If you turn 20 during your course, you can continue getting support until the end of that course.

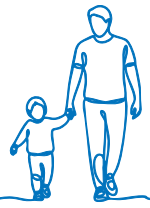
If you're not a UK citizen

You can still apply if you have one of these:

- Refugee status
- Humanitarian protection
- Discretionary, limited or indefinite leave to remain/enter
- Leave outside the rule

Or, if you're an asylum seeker under 18 (or 18–19 and a care leaver), you can apply with proof from your local authority.

What childcare...



... can it pay for?

Your **childcare must be registered with Ofsted**. This includes:

- Nurseries, childminders, or childcare agencies on the Early Years Register or General Childcare Register.
- School-run clubs (like breakfast or after-school clubs) that are exempt from registration.
- **Relatives only if** they:
 - Live at a separate address from you and your child, and
 - Care for at least one other unrelated child, and
 - Are Ofsted-registered.

How much ...

... can I get?



You can get:

- **Childcare:** up to £180 per child per week (paid directly to the childcare provider).
- **Travel costs:** for journeys between home and childcare (if this is in addition to your normal journey to college).
- Mileage is paid at 25p per mile if you drive.
- The maximum combined support (childcare and travel) is £180 per week.



How ...

... to apply



You need to fill in a **new application every academic year**.

1. Download the application form here: [Financial-Support-Care-to-Learn-Childcare-Application.pdf](#) or email **funding@runshaw.ac.uk** to request one.
2. Gather your documents:
 - Your child's birth certificate or a letter showing you receive Child Benefit.
 - Proof of your travel costs (if claiming travel support).
3. Complete the form (including childcare provider details).
4. Return the form to **funding@runshaw.ac.uk** or hand it in at Student Services.

We'll confirm in writing if your application has been approved and send you (and your childcare provider) a payment plan.

What you need to tell us

You must let us know straight away if:

- Your childcare arrangements or provider change.
- Your study hours or programme change.
- Your travel arrangements change.
- Your residency or immigration status changes.

What about work placements?

If your course includes compulsory work placements, **Care to Learn can cover** childcare during **those hours too**.

When will I hear back?

Once you've applied, we aim to confirm your eligibility and payment plan **within 10 working days** (during term time).



What if I disagree with a decision?

You can appeal within 10 working days of receiving your decision.

Write to:

Andrea Neild
Assistant Principal
Runshaw College
Langdale Road
Leyland
PR25 3DQ

We'll respond to your appeal within 10 working days.

Please note: if funds have already been fully used, we cannot overturn a refusal.

Data protection

We handle all your personal data securely and in line with GDPR and the Data Protection Act 2018.

For questions about how we use your data, contact our Data Protection Officer at: **DataProtectionOfficer@runshaw.ac.uk**

Need help...



If you have any questions about Care to Learn, or need help filling in the form, please contact: **funding@runshaw.ac.uk** or visit **Student Services Reception**.

We're here to help you continue your studies without worrying about childcare costs.