

# Early Years & Childcare Business Newsletter

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Issue No. 4

Welcome and thank you for taking the time to read our latest Business Newsletter, we hope you find it useful to support you with the ongoing sustainability of your business. If you have anything that you would like to see included in future editions do let us know and please contact us for any further support or advice [earlyyears@warwickshire.gov.uk](mailto:earlyyears@warwickshire.gov.uk)

## Extension to Coronavirus Job Retention Scheme!

The Government have recently announced that the Coronavirus Job Retention Scheme has been extended until 30 September 2021. To find out how the scheme is changing please click [here](#).

## Extension to the Self-Employment Income Support Scheme!

The Self-Employment Income Support Scheme has been extended to September 2021 with a fifth and final grant which covers from May to September 2021. Further information can be found [here](#).

## Financial Support where staff need to self-isolate

**Test & Trace Support Payment Scheme**—Employees may be eligible to claim financial support under the Test and Trace Support Payment scheme where they have to self-isolate due to coronavirus. Eligibility criteria can be found [here](#).

## Support for those who are employed but cannot work due to COVID-19—

Further information and support if you're employed and cannot work due to COVID-19 can be found [here](#).

**Coronavirus Statutory Sick Pay Rebate Scheme**—If you're an employer, find out if you can use the Coronavirus Statutory Sick Pay Rebate Scheme to claim back employees' coronavirus-related Statutory Sick Pay (SSP). Further information can be found [here](#).

## Warwickshire Skills Hub—Small Business Apprenticeship Levy Programme

The Apprenticeship Levy Small Business Support Programme supports small businesses in the recruiting and funding of apprenticeship training across Warwickshire. For businesses who are interested in taking on their first apprentice or are looking to increase the number of apprenticeships offered as part of their business growth plans, please click [here](#). They are particularly interested in the childcare sector.

## Apply for a Kickstart Scheme grant

If you're an employer looking to create jobs placements for young people, you can apply for funding as part of the Kickstart Scheme, please click [here](#) for more information.

# Business & Financial Support News

**COVID-19 Information & Support webpages**—WCC now have dedicated webpages to support early years and childcare settings during COVID-19. You can find the latest information and support [here](#)

- Ongoing advice and support
- Process for reporting positive cases of COVID-19 in a setting
- Government guidance
- Early Education Funding
- Early years and childcare business support

**Coronavirus Financial Support for businesses**—Due to the coronavirus pandemic and national restrictions the Government have announced financial support packages for businesses that have been affected by coronavirus. The financial support schemes are administered by the local District and Borough councils. Please note application deadlines are always changing so please keep checking. Councils may have discretionary funding that may be available for settings where they have had to close to some families due to coronavirus cases. For further information on the schemes including eligibility criteria, please click on the links below:

- [North Warwickshire Borough Council](#)
- [Nuneaton & Bedworth Borough Council](#)
- [Rugby Borough Council](#)
- [Warwick District Council](#)
- [Stratford on Avon Borough Council](#)

**Coronavirus—WCC economic recovery programmes**—WCC have developed an economic recovery plan and earmarked a budget of over £300 million to support economic recovery in the county. This includes a number of new or extended programmes to support business and the new Warwickshire Recovery and Investment Fund. Further details can be found [here](#).

**Warwickshire Skills Hub—Thrive at Work**—The Thrive at Work Wellbeing programme is focussed on wellbeing in the workplace and offers businesses around Warwickshire the opportunity to work with a dedicated team on improving and assessing their wellbeing provisions. For further details please click [here](#).

**The Nursery Milk Scheme**—The Nursery Milk Scheme has been running since the 1940s, funding 1/3 pint of milk a day for under-5s attending childcare. The scheme is available for registered childminders, registered day care providers and those providing day care to children under 5 years in schools. Further details can be found [here](#).

**Charging parents and carers if their child is unable to take up their place**—Settings are to refer to the [Actions for early years and childcare providers during the coronavirus \(COVID-19\) outbreak](#) guidance page 53 for information and guidance on charges for parents where their child is unable to take up their place due to COVID-19.

**Business rates: nursery (childcare) discount 2021 to 2022—local authority guidance**—At the Budget on 3 March 2021, the Chancellor announced that the Nursery Discount would continue to apply at 100% for eligible properties for the first 3 months of 2021 from 1 April to 30 June 2021. Further discounts will apply from 1 July 2021. Please click [here](#) for further information.

# COVID-19 Government Business Support Latest Updates

The Government has a webpage specifically for [Coronavirus \(COVID-19\): financial support for education, early years and children's social care](#) where you can find all of the latest information and guidance to support your business. Also available is the coronavirus support finder — <https://www.gov.uk/business-coronavirus-support-finder>

**Coronavirus (COVID-19): financial support for education, early years and children's social care**—Updated 3 February 2021— Updated guidance on supply teachers and other contingent workers in state-funded schools.

**Check if you can claim for your employees' wages through the Coronavirus Job Retention Scheme** —Updated 3 March 2021—The scheme has been extended until 30 September 2021. Updated 25 February 2021—Claims for furlough days in February 2021 must be made by 15 March 2021. Updated 4 February 2021—Updated the contact HMRC paragraph and included there is not right to appeal.

**Bounce back loan borrowers can delay repayments by extra six months**— The government announced on 8 February 2021 that businesses that took out government-backed Bounce Back Loans to get through Covid-19 will now have greater flexibility to repay their loans.

**Apply for a coronavirus Bounce Back Loan**—Updated 8 February 2021—The Bounce Back Loan Scheme (BBLS) enables smaller businesses to access finance more quickly during the coronavirus outbreak. The scheme is open to applications until 31 March 2021.

**Pay VAT deferred due to coronavirus (COVID-19)** - Updated 23 February 2021—The VAT deferral new payment scheme is now open. A link has been added to join the scheme. Updated 9 February 2021—Information added about how to join the VAT deferral new payment scheme—the online service is open between 23 February and 21 June 2021.

**Local Restrictions Support Grants (LRSG), Additional Restrictions Grant (ARG), Christmas Support Payment (CSP) for wet-led pubs: guidance for local authorities**— Updated 4 March 2021—All guidance documents updated: closing dates added; subsidy allowance guidelines amended; requirement for a business to have been trading before restrictions were announced in order to be eligible for funding has been clarified. Updated 22 February 2021—Guidance document 'Business support package for January 2021 lockdown' updated with details of the next payment cycle covering the period 16 February to 31 March.

**Providing apprenticeships during the coronavirus (COVID-19) outbreak**—Updated 25 February 2021—Updated to show eligible apprentices can now start their EPA before they achieved their functional skills qualifications, if they have been prevented from doing so by coronavirus (COVID-19) restrictions.

**Coronavirus guidance for Companies House customers**—Updated 26 February 2021—Strike off will resume from 8 March 2021.

**Recovery Loan Scheme**—A new loan scheme to support access to finance for UK business as they grow and recover from the disruption of the COVID-19 pandemic. The scheme launches on 6 April 2021 and is open until 31 December 2021, subject to review.

**Updates to tax charges when a person is no longer eligible to Self-Employment Income Support Scheme payments**—This tax information and impact note is about the tax charge arising when a person is ineligible for a Self-Employment Income Support Scheme grant previously claimed.

# Useful Business Support Websites & Contacts

## Starting up a childcare business

Information and tips on setting up and running your own business

<https://www.gov.uk/browse/business>

## Charity Commission

Useful information on setting up and running a charity

<https://www.gov.uk/government/organisations/charity-commission>

## Companies House

Information on starting up and running a company

<https://www.gov.uk/government/organisations/companies-house>

## Staff Employment – ACAS

Advice and information on staff employment matters

<https://www.acas.org.uk/>

## PACEY - Business Smart

<https://www.pacey.org.uk/working-in-childcare/business-smart/about-business-smart/>

## Find useful briefings, DfE guidance and slides from events and training

<https://app-t1pr-seycp.azurewebsites.net/resources.htm>

## Government help with childcare costs for parents

<https://www.childcarechoices.gov.uk/>

## Group setting cost calculator co-produced with Merton and PACEY through DSF funding

<https://www.pacey.org.uk/working-in-childcare/nurseries/group-setting-cost-calculator/>

<https://www.pacey.org.uk/working-in-childcare/nurseries/group-setting-occupancy-tool/>

## Warwickshire County Council Warwickshire Insights

Warwickshire Insights provides statistical information about local areas in Warwickshire

<https://data.warwickshire.gov.uk/>

## Out of School Alliance

Information and support to individuals and organisations setting up and running out of school clubs, holiday clubs and playschemes.

<https://www.outofschoolalliance.co.uk/>

## The Pensions Regulator

Information and guidance on staff pensions and the responsibility of the employer

<https://www.thepensionsregulator.gov.uk/>

## Coram Family and Childcare's resources are designed to help professionals working in childcare and early years

<https://www.familyandchildcaretrust.org/resources-professionals>

## NDNA – Business Zone NDNA Business Zone

[http://www.ndna.org.uk/NDNA/News/Early\\_Years\\_Business\\_Zone.aspx](http://www.ndna.org.uk/NDNA/News/Early_Years_Business_Zone.aspx)

## Early Years Alliance – Business and Management

<https://www.eyalliance.org.uk/business-and-management>

<https://www.eyalliance.org.uk/cost-delivery-calculator>

## Foundation Years – Business Planning

<https://foundationyears.org.uk/2019/08/business-planning/>

## Warwickshire County Council Family Information Service

Free advertising for your childcare business on the childcare directory.

<https://www.warwickshire.gov.uk/fis>

## Support and advice for your early years business

<https://www.earlyyearsbusinesszone.org.uk/>

## Early years business sustainability

Advice, examples and resources to help early years providers run a sustainable business

<https://www.gov.uk/government/collections/early-years-business-sustainability>

## Warwickshire County Council Childcare Sufficiency Assessment

<https://www.warwickshire.gov.uk/childcaretypes>

## Warwickshire County Council Support for businesses & suppliers

<https://www.warwickshire.gov.uk/coronavirusbusinesssupport>