

To qualify you must also be either:

- a Lone Parent who is employed for 16 hours or more, weekly
- both you and your partner are employed for 16 hours or more each week
- you are working over 16 hours per week and your partner is unable to work because of a recognised long-term illness or disability or is either in prison or hospital
- you are absent from work due to illness and paid statutory sick pay, short-term incapacity benefit, income support or credited with earnings for up to 28 weeks.

Child care charges cannot be deducted if the child is being cared for by a relative in the child's own home.



St Edmundsbury
BOROUGH COUNCIL

REVENUES & BENEFITS SERVICE

Child Care Costs

FROM APRIL 2005

The calculation of Council Tax and Housing Benefits has changed. The cost of child care (up to a maximum of £175 per week for one child or a maximum of £300 per week for two or more children) can be subtracted from any earned income you have. Benefit entitlement is then assessed using a lower income.

If you are responsible for a child or children under 15 years old (or 16 years old if your child is disabled) and you pay child care costs for them you may qualify for extra help.

This help lasts until the first Monday in September after the 15th birthday of the youngest child (or 16th birthday in the case of a disabled child) for whom you may pay child care costs.

Help will only be given if you pay your child care costs to one of the following:

- a registered childminder
- other registered childcare providers such as a nursery
- an after school club for the under 8's
- an after school club held out-of-school hours for children aged over 8. The club must be provided on school premises, or run by a school, or run by the local authority or is a scheme operating on Crown property. *(Please turn over).*