

A woman with long blonde hair is smiling and looking down at a young child. They are both playing with colorful stacking toys (yellow, red, blue, and pink) on a table. The woman is holding a yellow toy, and the child is holding a red one. The background is slightly blurred, showing shelves with more toys.

**NORTH EAST  
SCOTLAND  
COLLEGE**

**CHILDCARE  
FUNDING  
2023**

# INTRODUCTION

We are delighted you have chosen to study at North East Scotland College.

At the College, we have funds which you may be able to access to help towards your registered childcare costs, whilst studying at College.

Eligible students will be invited to apply for childcare funding via an online application form.

The closing date for applications will be the 31<sup>st</sup> October 2023.

**As the funds available are limited, it is important you submit your application as soon as possible.**



**It is important to arrange childcare well in advance of the start date of your course. The actual days and times of your attendance at College may not be known until just before you actually start your course but you are advised to make provisional plans, confirming the actual arrangements once your timetable is known.**

## REGISTERED CHILDCARE

Most students will only attend College for a given number of hours each week and therefore will not require childcare for a full week. **The College will only cover childcare costs for the days you are timetabled to attend College.** Which provider you choose is your choice, providing they are registered with the Care Inspectorate ([www.careinspectorate.com](http://www.careinspectorate.com)) but remember you have to be able to drop your child at the childcare provider and then be in College in time for your classes.

## COLLEGE NURSERY (FRASERBURGH)



Nursery@NESCOL is the College internal nursery and is situated at the rear of the Fraserburgh Campus. The nursery is open from 8.45am to 4.15pm, Monday to Friday, during term time only. Nursery@NESCOL caters for up to 30 children at any one time, from age 6 months to 5 years. Continuing students have priority for spaces, thereafter, places are allocated on a first come, first served basis.

If you require further information regarding places at Nursery@NESCOL, please contact the Student Advice Centre at the Fraserburgh Campus on 01346 586163.

If you require details of childcare providers who are registered with the Care Inspectorate within your area please contact your local Childcare Information Service or visit the following websites:

Registered childcare providers:  
[www.careinspectorate.com](http://www.careinspectorate.com)

For information on Child Tax Credit and Universal Credit:  
[www.gov.uk/child-tax-credit](http://www.gov.uk/child-tax-credit)  
[www.gov.uk/universal-credit](http://www.gov.uk/universal-credit)

# FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE

The College receives funding to assist FE and HE students with registered childcare costs. The Discretionary Childcare Fund is means tested on household income. Students should be aware that the College may not cover the full cost of your childcare. **Any outstanding amount is the student's responsibility.**

Students with a household income for the previous tax year, which is less than **£39,000** may be eligible for assistance.

The following table shows what percentage of childcare costs you may receive

based on your household income for the previous tax year:

HOUSEHOLD INCOME	CHILDCARE ALLOWANCE
£0 to £27,000	100%
£27,001 to £30,000	80%
£30,001 to £33,000	60%
£33,001 to £36,000	40%
£36,001 to £39,000	20%

The maximum childcare claim limit the College will consider for assessing based on household income is as follows:

Nursery/Childcare Provider -	up to £55 per day for a full-time place per child
Childminder -	up to £6 per hour per child
For Breakfast Club -	up to £6 per child per session
For After School Club -	up to £12 per child per session
Nursery@NESCOL	up to £40 per full day or £20 per half day (8.45am – 12.30pm or 12.30pm – 4.15pm)

## ELIGIBILITY

To be eligible for these funds students must be enrolled as a full-time or part-time student and meet certain criteria:

- **Meet residence conditions**
- **Be in receipt of funding from appropriate funding body**
- **Be on a fundable course**
- **Must be past compulsory school leaving age**
- **Be able to demonstrate financial hardship and difficulty with meeting childcare costs**
- **Receiving Child Tax Credits or Children element of Universal Credits and be eligible to receive Child Benefit.**

HE Students must also meet the following criteria:

- **Taken student loan entitlement**
- **Lone parents must have claimed the Lone Parent Grant from SAAS**

Students not having Fee support paid for by SAAS, will not be eligible for support from the Discretionary Childcare Fund.





## LONE PARENT CHILDCARE GRANT

Lone Parents are entitled to receive up to a maximum of **£1,215** towards registered childcare costs after which they can receive additional help from Childcare Funds at the discretion of the College.

To be eligible for these funds students must meet the same criteria as the Discretionary Childcare Funding, with the exception of the following:

- **Students paying their own fees are still eligible to apply for the Lone Parent Childcare Grant.**



## FAQs

### What happens if I am awarded assistance with childcare costs?

If childcare assistance is allocated, payments will be paid directly to the childcare provider. As the childcare contract is between you and your chosen childcare provider, if your award is less than your childcare providers full fees then it will be **your responsibility to pay the balance.**

### My childcare award doesn't cover the full cost of my childcare – what can I do?

If you need financial support to pay the balance of your childcare costs, please contact Kathleen Watson ([kwatson@nescol.ac.uk](mailto:kwatson@nescol.ac.uk)) or Julie Eaton ([j.eaton@nescol.ac.uk](mailto:j.eaton@nescol.ac.uk)) **for information on how we can help you.**

### Is there a closing date for childcare applications?

The closing date for applications will be the 31<sup>st</sup> October 2023. Applications received after this date are subject to funds being available and may not be back dated to the start of the academic year - this includes additional requests for support such as, inservice days.

### What happens if I leave College?

It is your responsibility to advise the childcare provider that you no longer require childcare. If you leave the College and there has been an overpayment made to the childcare provider, the College will recover these costs from you.

## CONDITIONS OF AWARD

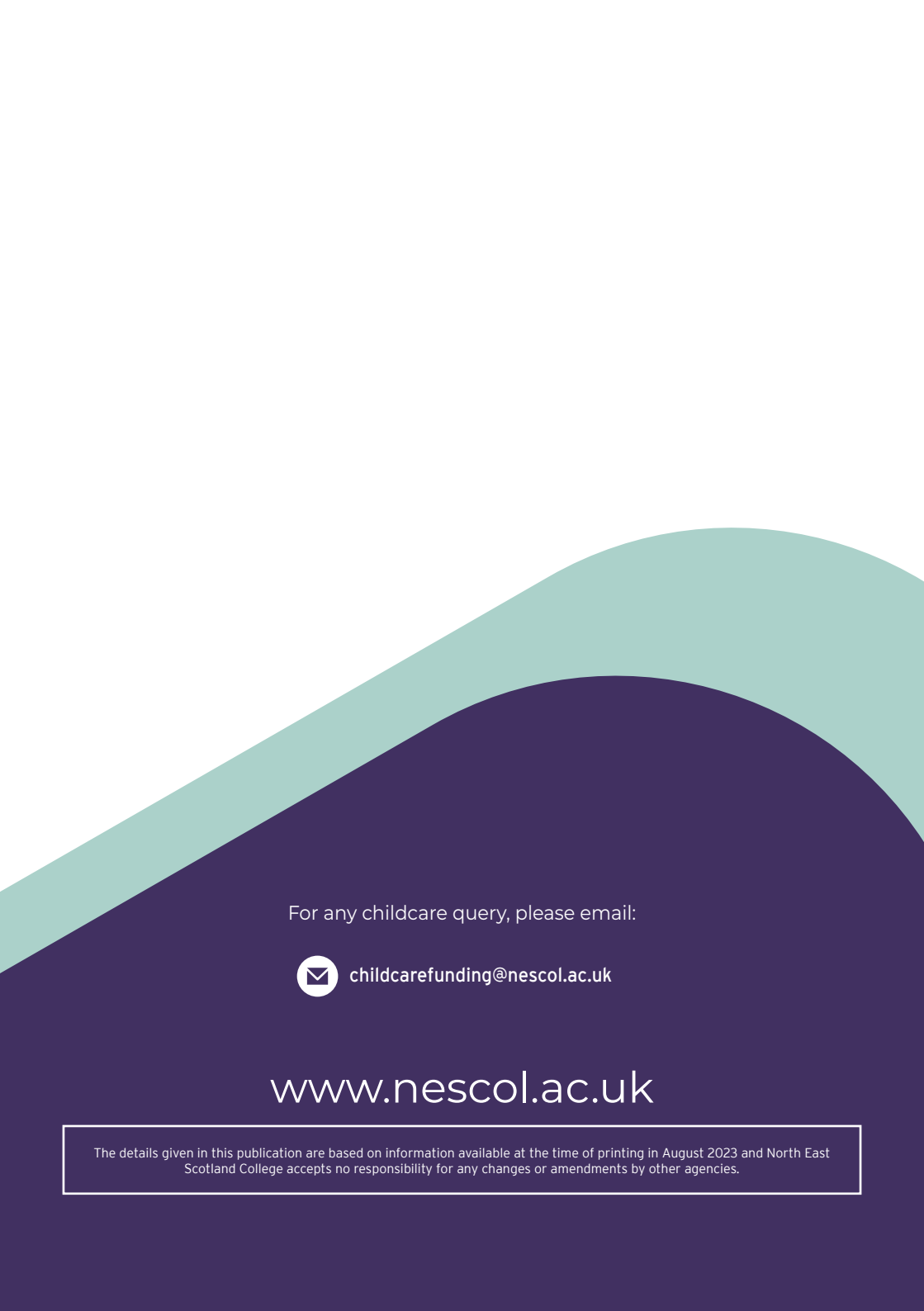
It is the student's responsibility to complete all relevant applications and provide the requested documentation when applying for childcare funding. Failure to do so may result in a delay in the processing of your application or a loss of childcare funding.

Payment to your chosen childcare provider is dependant on 100% attendance and positive engagement with your studies. Any withheld or part payment, resulting in arrears to your childcare provider will be your (the student's) responsibility.

## AM I ELIGIBLE?

To discuss your eligibility email [childcarefunding@nescol.ac.uk](mailto:childcarefunding@nescol.ac.uk) or if you wish to make an appointment please call [01224 612284](tel:01224612284) (Aberdeen) or [01346 586129](tel:01346586129) (Fraserburgh).





For any childcare query, please email:



[childcarefunding@nescol.ac.uk](mailto:childcarefunding@nescol.ac.uk)

[www.nescol.ac.uk](http://www.nescol.ac.uk)

The details given in this publication are based on information available at the time of printing in August 2023 and North East Scotland College accepts no responsibility for any changes or amendments by other agencies.