



COVID-19

Carers responsibility supplement FAQs

1) When does the support scheme start?

The support scheme starts from 20 April 2022 and will run until 30 September 2022.

2) What is classed as a dependant?

A dependant is classed as a child under the age of 16 that you have sole or primary caring responsibilities for.

3) What support is available if the whole school or nursery close and I am unable to work as I need to look after my dependant?

If you are unable to work, or need to work reduced hours because your dependants nursery or school is closed, then there are support measures in place. Support measures are in place if you are employed or if you are self employed.

4) What support is available if the whole school or nursery close and I am able to work?

If you are able to work your full hours whether from your normal work place or home there are no support measures available to you. If you are only able to work reduced hours there will be support measures in place.

5) What are the support measures if I am employed?

If you are employed, then your employer will need to make an application and you will need to sign the declaration. The support will be 80% of your wages and other benefits under your employment contract, this is capped at £2,500 a month. Any commission, tips, bonuses or non-cash payments will not be included when calculating the 80%.

6) What are the support measures if I am self-employed?

If you are self-employed, then you will need to make an application and you will need to sign the declaration. The support will be 80% of your income, this is capped at £2,500 a month. When considering what your normal income, you may base your application on the higher of:

- if you were in business in 2019, your 2019 income figures (this information can be found on your tax assessment), divided by 12 to give a monthly figure; or
- your income figure for the previous month, which is turnover less expenses.

If your business started after 2019 you will need to provide your income figure for the previous month.

Self employed for this purpose will include casual staff, zero hour contract workers and sole or principal proprietors of companies. A full list can be found in the Guidance notes.

7) What if I decide not to send my dependant to school/nursery, can I still receive support?

If the school or nursery are still open and able to take your dependant and you decide not to send them, then there will not be support if you are unable to go to work.

8) The nursery hasn't closed but they cannot have all the children because they do not have enough staff. They have told me my dependant needs to stay at home, what support can I get?

As the nursery has told you they cannot care for your child, if you are unable to work because you are caring for your dependant then you will fall within the support measures.

9) What if one of my dependants can go to school but my other dependant cannot (due to class closure or nursery closure) will I still get support?

If you are unable to work because you are caring for your dependant due to their class or nursery being closed then you will fall within the support measures.

10) If the school or nursery close and a family member or friend looks after my dependant can they get the support?

No, if they are your dependant the support will only be available if you are unable to work because you are looking after them.



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11) What if a family member or friend normally looks after my child instead of nursery and they cannot because they have COVID-19, can I claim the support if I am unable to work?

No, you can only get the support if your child is normally at nursery and they close or do not have enough space for your children to attend.

12) How do I apply?

If you are employed, your employer will need to complete the Furlough Application form. If you are self-employed then you will need to complete the Income Supplement Application form.

13) What evidence do I need to provide?

If your dependants nursery has not fully closed and you have been asked to not send them in because there are not enough staff to maintain the ratios, you may need to provide this with the application. If the schools or nursery's have closed in full then this should be held centrally.

14) How quickly will it be paid / when does my employer have to submit?

When the employer submits the application is something they will decide, or if you are self-employed this is something you can control. Once the application has been received the aim is to turnaround applications in 21 days. If there are any queries etc. then this may impact on the time taken to process the application.

15) What happens if my employer won't apply for it?

Payments are made through employers or directly to self-employed individuals. FIG strongly encourages all employers to apply for this support. We have made the application process as simple as possible, and are working with the Chamber of Commerce to ensure that employers understand how the schemes works.

16) Is there anyone else I can contact if I need additional support?

In cases of individual hardship, financial support may be available through the Income Support system, by contacting IncomeSupport.social@kemh.gov.fk or calling 27296.

17) Who do I contact if I need further information regarding this support?

Information and advice on the schemes is available on the <https://www.falklands.gov.fk/COVID-19/business-support>, by phoning 28470 or emailing treasury.support@sec.gov.fk