

Frequently Asked Questions about the Child Student Visa

Who needs a Child Student Visa?

Foreign national children aged between 4 and 17 years old who wish to study at an independent school in the UK need a Child Student Visa.

What are the main requirements to apply for this visa?

The main requirements include having an unconditional offer from an accredited independent school, proof of financial support for tuition and living expenses, consent from parents or legal guardians, and suitable accommodation arrangements in the UK.

How long does the Child Student Visa last?

The visa duration is typically tied to the length of the course plus a short period before and after the course. For courses longer than six months, the extra time given is usually up to 1 month before and 4 months after the course ends.

When can the application be made?

If you're applying from outside the UK, you can submit your visa application up to 6 months before your course begins. If you're applying from within the UK, the earliest you can apply is 3 months prior to the start of your course.

How much will it cost?

To submit the visa application, you will need to pay:

- £490 visa application fee
- £776 per year of study for the immigration Health surcharge (IHS).

[Calculate your immigration health surcharge](#)

Can the visa be extended?

Yes, the Child Student Visa can be extended to continue the same course or start a new course at the same school, provided the eligibility criteria are still met and the school remains a registered sponsor.

Can a child work while on a Child Student Visa?

No, children on a Child Student Visa are not permitted to work, including part-time or holiday jobs. This restriction ensures they focus solely on their studies.

Are family members allowed to accompany the child to the UK?

Children on a Child Student Visa cannot bring dependents with them. However, parents of children under 12 years old may apply for a Parent of a Child Student Visa to stay with their child in the UK.

What happens if the visa application is refused?

If a visa application is refused, the refusal letter from the Home Office will explain the reason for the decision. Applicants can request an administrative review if they believe there has been an error in handling their application.

Is healthcare included during the child's stay in the UK?

Yes, children on a Child Student Visa must pay the Immigration Health Surcharge as part of their application, giving them access to the National Health Service (NHS) in the UK.

How much bank balance is required to show for the visa application?

The exact amount varies depending on the school's location (inside or outside London). Applicants must demonstrate sufficient funds to cover the first year of tuition and living expenses for up to 9 months, as outlined by the UK Home Office.

What happens if the child changes schools?

If the child changes schools, the new school must issue a Confirmation of Acceptance for Studies (CAS), and the visa must be updated to reflect this change.

What documents are required for a Child Student Visa application?

Required documents include:

- A current passport
- Confirmation of Acceptance for Studies (CAS) from the course provider
- Parental consent
- Proof of financial capability
- Proof of relationship to parents or guardians
- Any additional documents depending on individual circumstances

How can parents ensure compliance with legal requirements for their child's education in the UK?

Parents should ensure all application forms are completed accurately, required documents are provided, and they remain informed about the visa's conditions.

How BSA Group Legal Can Help

At BSA Group Legal, we provide expert advice to streamline the visa process and ensure your documents meet UKVI standards. From guiding you through the application process to assisting with future renewals or changes, our tailored support helps families navigate UK immigration requirements with confidence. Contact us for comprehensive advice and support, ensuring your child's educational journey in the UK is a smooth and successful experience.

Contact BSA Legal

Legal@bsagroup.org.uk

+44 (0)207 798 1583