JOB SUPPORT SCHEME – UPDATED OCTOBER 2020

The Job Support Scheme (JSS) was announced by the Chancellor in September to take over from the Job Retention (Furlough) Scheme. On Thursday 22 October, the Chancellor announced changes to the level of support, which will come into effect on 1 November. The basic premise will remain the same, being:

- All small and medium-sized businesses are eligible.
- Larger businesses must demonstrate a fall in turnover during the pandemic.
- Employers can use the new scheme even if they have not previously used the furlough scheme.
- The scheme will last for six months to 30 April 2021.
- Employers will continue to pay the wages of staff for the hours they work.
- Grant payments will be made in arrears and will not cover Employers NI or pension contributions.

The scheme has been split in two with JSS Open being for businesses who can continue to operate and JSS Closed for employers who are legally required to close their business due to coronavirus restrictions.

JSS Open
- The employee will need to work at least 20% of their usual hours and will be paid by the employer as usual for those hours.
- Of the remaining 80% of usual hours not worked, the employee will receive 66.67% of this.
- 5% is provided by the employer up to a maximum of £125 per month.
- The 61.67% balance will be paid by the Government, up to a maximum of £1,541.75 per month.
- Employees will receive at least 73% of their wages where they earn £3,125 or less.

Credit BBC
- Note: in reference to an employee's gross salary when they only work 20% of their usual hours, the employer pays an additional 4% (5% of 80%), the Government 49% (61.67% of 80%).

JSS Closed
- The Government will support two thirds of an employee's normal wages, up to £2,083.33 per month.

Further guidance will be released by HMRC here:
https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/the-job-support-scheme/the-job-support-scheme