Evidence requirements for birth registration

Author: Luton Registrar team
Contact: registration@luton.gov.uk
Version: 1.0
Last updated: October 2026

The new evidence requirements listed here come into effect from 9 November 2026.

Contents

Primary evidence for birth registration (one of the following) 2
1. Passport (current or expired) 2
2. UK biometric immigration document 2
3. UK valid travel document 2
4. UK refugee travel Document issued under Article 28 of the 1951 Geneva Convention 2
5. UK Stateless Person Travel Document. Issued under Article 28 of the 1954 Geneva Convention 3
6. UK driving licence (full or provisional) 3
7. UK birth certificate 3
8. UK adoption certificate 3
9. EU driving licence 3
10. EU member state identity card 3
11. PASS card – proof of age standards scheme 3
Secondary evidence for birth registration (two of the following) 4
1. Utility bill 4
2. Council Tax statement 4
3. Bank or building society statement 4
4. Mortgage statement 4
5. Credit card statement 4
6. P45 or P60 4
7. Marriage or civil partnership certificate 4

8. Letter from a government agency....5
9. Letter from the National Health Service....5
10. HMRC notification (or successor body)....5
11. Police or Armed Forces ID....5
12. Signed firearms certificate....5
13. Proof of Royal Mail redirection....5
14. Document issues by the person's local authority....6
15. Proof of receipt of State Pension....6
16. School or college letter for 16- to 19-year-olds....6

To register a birth in Luton, you will need to provide document evidence.

If you cannot provide evidence from the primary list below, you will need to provide two documents from secondary list.

Bring your document(s) to your birth registration appointment.

Primary evidence for birth registration

This is a full and comprehensive list of primary evidence you can use for birth registration.

1. Passport (current or expired)

Expired passports may be accepted up to 18 months after the date of expiry. Applies to UK and overseas passports.

- Document type: physical document or booklet.
- Description: booklet-style identity and travel document. Cover colours and internal layouts vary by country and issuing authority.

2. UK biometric immigration document

- Document type: physical or digital or document.
- Description: may be a durable plastic document similar in size to a credit card, or an online immigration status record viewed through the eVisa service.

3. UK valid travel document

- Document type: physical document or booklet.
- Description: black cover booklet-style travel document, similar in format to a UK passport.

4. UK refugee travel Document issued under Article 28 of the 1951 Geneva Convention

- Document type: physical document booklet.
- Description: blue cover booklet-style travel document, similar in format to a UK passport.

5. UK Stateless Person Travel Document. Issued under Article 28 of the 1954 Geneva Convention

- Document type: physical document booklet.
- Description: red cover booklet-style travel document, similar in format to a UK passport.

6. UK driving licence (full or provisional)

Note: the paper counterpart driving licence is not acceptable.

- Document type: physical or digital document.
- Description: photocard driving licence in a durable plastic format, similar in size to a credit card. Driving licence information may also be viewed or shared through the DVLA online service.

7. UK birth certificate

- Document type: physical document.
- Description: full or short birth certificate issued by the relevant authority.

8. UK adoption certificate

- Document type: physical document.
- Description: adoption certificate issued by the relevant authority.

9. EU driving licence

- Document type: physical document – see: Council of the European Union – PRADO.
- Description: photocard driving licence in a durable plastic format, similar in size to a credit card.

10. EU member state identity card

- Document type: physical document - see: Council of the European Union – PRADO.
- Description: photo identity document in a durable plastic format, similar in size to a credit card. Council of the European Union – PRADO option may be available through an accredited provider.

11. PASS card – proof of age standards scheme

- Document type: physical or digital document
- Description: photo proof-of-age identity document in a durable plastic format, similar in size to a credit card. A digital PASS option may also be available through an accepted PASS provider.

Secondary evidence for birth registration

To register a birth in Luton, you will need to provide document evidence.

If you cannot provide evidence from the primary evidence list, you will need to provide two documents from this secondary evidence list.

Bring your document(s) to your birth registration appointment.

1. Utility bill

Note: a mobile phone bill is not acceptable.

- Document type: physical or digital document.
- Description: Electricity, gas, water, landline telephone or broadband bill.

2. Council Tax statement

- Document type: physical or digital document.
- Description: Council Tax bill, statement or related Council Tax correspondence issues by a local authority.

3. Bank or building society statement

- Document type: physical or digital document.
- Description: statement issued by a bank or building society.

4. Mortgage statement

- Document type: physical or digital document.
- Description: statement issued by a mortgage provider.

5. Credit card statement

- Document type: physical or digital document.
- Description: statement issued by a credit card provider.

6. P45 or P60

- Document type: physical or digital document.
- Description: employment tax document. These are often issued electronically, but a paper copy may also be provided. See: P45, P60 and P11D form (GOV.UK).

7. Marriage or civil partnership certificate

- Document type: physical document – only for UK certificates.

- Description: paper certificate for UK marriage or civil partnership entries.
- Overseas marriage or civil partnership evidence may be presented in paper form or, wherever applicable, through a digital route.

8. Letter from a government agency

- Document type: physical or digital document.
- Description: UK government document, agency or public body. Options include evidence of:
  - tenancy agreement
  - Housing Benefit
  - vehicle tax
  - citizenship
  - electoral registration
  - jury service
  - Carer's Allowance
  - higher education correspondence

9. Letter from the National Health Service

- Document type: physical or digital document.
- Description: appointment, referral or discharge letters, a child health record ('red book') or fit note.

10. HMRC notification (or successor body)

- Document type: physical or digital document.
- Description: HMRC correspondence issues in relation to tax or related matters, such as:
  - National Insurance
  - Tax Credits
  - tax overpayments

See: check if a letter you've received from HMRC is genuine (GOV.UK)

11. Police or Armed Forces ID

- Document type: physical document.
- Description: for UK Police and Armed Forces IDs, this is usually a photo identity document in a durable plastic format, similar in size to a credit card.
- Overseas police of forces ID documents may differ.

See: HM armed forces veteran card (GOV.UK)

12. Signed firearms certificate

- Document type: physical document.
- Description: A4 paper certificate with security features and a photograph.
  - Firearm and registered firearms dealer certificates should be printed on blue paper.
  - Shotgun certificates should be printed on buff/beige paper.

13. Proof of Royal Mail redirection

- Document type: physical document.

- Description: proof or confirmation of a Royal Mail redirection, normally issued on Royal Mail letterhead.

See: Royal Mail redirection

14. Document issues by the person's local authority

- Document type: physical or digital document.
- Description: this can include:
  - tenancy agreement
  - Housing Benefit correspondence
  - Blue Badge correspondence
  - social care notifications
  - electoral registration letters

15. Proof of receipt of State Pension

- Document type: physical or digital document.
- Description: proof of benefits and State Pension letter from DWP or correspondence confirming a State Pension or change to entitlement.

16. School or college letter for 16- to 19-year-olds

- Document type: physical or digital document.
- Description: letter or document issued by a school or college for a young person aged 16 to 19.