

Parent information sheet

Working Tax Credit

If you are 16 years old or over and you are responsible for a child or young person while working 16 hours or more a week, you can get Working Tax Credit. You may also be able to get 80% of your registered and approved childcare or school activities paid for, up to a maximum weekly amount of:

- £140 a week for one child; or
- £240 a week for two or more children.

Please note the amount of Working Tax Credit will depend on household income.

Child Tax Credit

Provides support for families who are responsible for children aged under 16 (under 19 where the child is studying full-time up to A-level or equivalent). You are likely to get some tax credit if your income is less than £58,000 a year (£66,000 if you have a child under the age of 1).

To apply for an application form or to talk about your claim, phone the tax credit helpline on **0845 300 3900** from 8am to 8pm Monday to Sunday.

For general information visit the HM Revenue & Customs website:
www.hmrc.gov.uk/menus/credits.htm

Childcare Vouchers

Childcare vouchers are one of the ways in which employers can help their employees with the cost of registered or approved childcare. In some cases they can also be used to pay for school activities.

The employee can save tax and National Insurance on the first £55 a week or £243 a month of their childcare costs. The total yearly saving for a basic tax payer is just over £960 a year.

Both employed parents can claim these exemptions if their employers run a childcare voucher scheme.

Useful websites:

HM Revenue and Customs
www.hmrc.gov.uk/childcare/childcarefactsheet.htm

Daycare Trust
www.daycaretrust.org.uk

Surrey Family Information Service

For free information, advice and assistance on:

- finding & paying for childcare; activities; play and sport for children, young people and families;
- working parents' rights and options;
- family and parenting support;
- working with children.

<http://www.surreycc.gov.uk/fis>

Tel: 0300 200 1004

Email: surrey.fis@surreycc.gov.uk

Healthy Start Vouchers

With Healthy Start, you can get a voucher every week which you swap for milk, fresh fruit, fresh vegetables and infant formula milk. You can also get free vitamins.

You qualify for Healthy Start if you're pregnant or have a child under four years old **and**:

- you or your family get Income Support, or
- you or your family get income-based Jobseeker's Allowance, or
- you or your family get Child Tax Credit (but not Working Tax Credit unless your family is receiving Working Tax Credit run-on only) and have an annual family income of below £15,575.

<http://www.healthystart.nhs.uk/>

You could also **call 08701 555 455** and ask to be sent the leaflet and application form, "A healthy start for pregnant women and young children" code HS01 or **ask your midwife or health visitor**.

Healthy Start Vitamin Tablets and Drops are available at the Children's Centre in exchange for vouchers.