

SURREY SHORT BREAKS

E-NEWSLETTER – September 2017



Welcome to the latest edition of the Surrey Short Breaks e-newsletter.



We are currently reviewing our **Short Breaks Statement** in partnership with **Family Voice Surrey**. This Statement outlines our approach to offering short breaks and how families access them. All councils are required to have one.

We will be running the following **focus group** sessions (with hot drinks and cake!) and we would love your **help** to make sure it is telling parents what they want to know.

Wednesday **27 September 10.30am to 12pm**

Quadrant Court, **Woking**

Wednesday **27 September 6pm to 7.30pm**

Quadrant Court, **Woking**

Tuesday **03 October 10.30am to 12pm**

St Faith's Centre, **Leatherhead**

Tuesday **03 October 5.30pm to 7pm**

Consort House, **Redhill**



If you are available to come along and share your ideas please email:

jennifer.rowe@surreycc.gov.uk

SHORT BREAKS TENDER UPDATE:

The retendering of short break services in Surrey is now complete. New services will start on 1st December. If you have received this newsletter because your child is on the Disability Register or because you signed up to the Surrey Short Breaks mailing list, you will soon receive an invitation to a series of launch events where you will have an opportunity to meet staff from our short break providers. Many will be familiar but there will be one or two new faces! Look out for the invitation in your inbox soon.

Click [here](#) to visit the page providing details of the Cabinet decision to approve the short breaks proposals. There is also a link to the webcast should you wish to watch the Cabinet discussions.

TELL US WHAT YOU THINK ABOUT: PERSONAL SUPPORT

Surrey County Council is about to retender the personal support part of short breaks offer in Surrey. Personal Support is provided by specialist support workers that help children and young people with personal care in the home and support them to access activities in the community.

We are seeking the views of parents and carers of disabled children and young people across Surrey on the services they currently use or have previously used. A list of the agencies that currently offer this support in Surrey can be seen below. If you wish to be part of this process please complete the following questionnaire.



Personal Support
Questionnaire.docx

Closing date: Friday 22nd September

Personal Support providers in Surrey:

+ Allied Healthcare + Ambition 24 + Barnardos + Crossroads Care + Interserve +
Kent SCP + Kids + London Care + Potens + Prestige Nursing + Remark Ltd
+ Scope + Supreme Healthcare + Surrey Domiciliary Care Service (SCC)
+ The Avenues Trust + The Regard Partnership + Thornbury Nursing
+ White Lodge Centre + Woodleigh Healthcare



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White Lodge centre

Challengers

Sadly there was a fire at Challengers' Guildford site on Sunday 10th September as a result of a tumble dryer fault (it was not in use at the time).

Thankfully no-one was hurt however the downstairs play floor was damaged significantly. Challengers welcomes donations to help with repairs.

Schemes will not be able to run at the Guildford site and staff are putting in place arrangements to relocate to a temporary venue.

For more information visit the Challengers [website](#)

Saturday Club looking for members!

Rendezvous Saturday Club in Chertsey is for disabled young people aged 13 to 18 years.

The club can support a range of needs including ASD, learning disabilities and complex health needs.

Here's what White Lodge says about their Rendezvous Club:

"The members are encouraged to explore the wider community and benefit from the great facilities at White Lodge Centre.

Members are offered the opportunity to complete accredited courses whereby their skills and developments are identified and rewarded. We support the members through life skills and daily living activities. Our members often develop great friendships and really benefit from the numerous opportunities for socialising."

Enquiries to the White Lodge Centre:
01932 577961
aherring@whitelodgecentre.co.uk

Carers' Break Grants

Carers' Break Grants are one-off grants (up to £300) for carers whose child does not meet the threshold for social care support. They can only be applied for by a professional on behalf of a family and must be supported by an application that clearly outlines the carer's need for a break. The money can be used for a family short break, holiday play schemes, driving lessons, family days out, gym membership and more.

If you think you are eligible, ask a SENCO, School Nurse, Health Visitor, Home School Link Worker or other professional to apply on your behalf.





Some good news stories from lucky winners of the Merlin Pass lottery

From a support worker:

"4 out of the 8 children whom I support were successful in winning these. I can honestly say that these have been well used!!! I have had 4 trips to Chessington, 9 trips to Thorpe park, and 4 trips to Legoland during the summer holidays alone, the Merlin passes have also been used most weekends too when I have supported these children. The staff, particularly at Thorpe Park have become to know me and the children I support very well! These passes have made a real difference to the children's support and have provided hours of fun and enjoyment, which I have had the privilege to have seen and be part of first hand."

From a parent:

"You kindly gave us merlin passes and we would like to say a big thank you. We already have used our passes as much as we can as never to be honest been able to afford it."

We thought we wouldn't make it to the London Eye today as my daughter was in hospital over the weekend again but we made it.

Thanks again and we are looking forward to more adventures over the summer holidays!



Don't forget that even if you weren't successful in the lottery this time, there is still a discount code which enables you to purchase Standard Annual Passes at a cost of £116.35 per pass instead of the full price cost of £179 per pass. The code can only be used when purchasing passes over the phone by calling Merlin on 08444 77 44 44 and quoting the discount code "Surrey 2017."



We would like to interview a few willing parents about services in Surrey so that we can tell others about the benefits of short breaks in a more visual way.



If you would be happy to help us create a short video about your experiences as a family, please email or call us using the details below.

Finding out more about short breaks in Surrey...

Contact the team on **01372 832896** or by email @ shortbreaks@surreycc.gov.uk

www.surreycc.gov.uk/shortbreaks

www.facebook.com/surreyshortbreaks



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