

Surrey's Leisure Offer

For Children Looked After and Care Leavers

This scheme has been developed by Surrey County Council in partnership with 11 Borough and District Councils and 5 of Surrey's Leisure Operators.

Building on confidence, friendships and well-being



★ The offer ★

Children looked after and Care Leavers living in Surrey are entitled to:

- ✓ Free gym membership
- ✓ Free access to Swimming (lessons are not included)
- ✓ 50% concession on classes and bookable activities (offer may vary with each centre)

Surrey Foster Carers and their birth children (under 18 years old) are entitled to a 50% leisure discount at eligible leisure centres.

Social Workers and Personal Advisors can email leisure.offer@surreycc.gov.uk to find out more and access the application form.



Surrey Leisure Offer for Children Looked After and Care Leavers

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Frequently Asked Questions (FAQs)

Q. What is the Leisure Offer and who can apply?

A. The Leisure Offer is a scheme developed by Surrey County Council in partnership with all 11 Borough and District Councils and 5 of Surrey's leisure operators to provide children looked after and care leavers free gym membership, swimming access and 50% concessions on classes and bookable activities. The Leisure Offer is only open to children who are currently looked after by Surrey County Council and formal care leavers from Surrey County Council care, this being those who leave care as they approach adulthood and who are living/placed within the county of Surrey. Care leavers can apply until their 25th birthday.

Q. How long is the membership for?

A. We will offer all memberships for a 1 year period. If care leavers are approaching their 25th birthday, an

annual membership can still be issued. If eligible, the Leisure Offer Team will liaise with the centre to renew the membership or contact the worker if further information or action is required.

Q. Which centres are included?

A. The following centres can be accessed through the Leisure Offer by borough/district:

- Epsom & Ewell – Rainbow Leisure Centre, Epsom
- Elmbridge – Walton Excel and Hurst Pool
- Guildford – Ash Manor, Guildford Lido and Guildford Spectrum
- Mole Valley – Dorking Sports Centre and Leatherhead Leisure Centre
- Reigate and Banstead – Horley Leisure Centre, Donyngs Recreation Centre and Tadworth Leisure and Community Centre
- Runnymede – Egham Orbit
- Spelthorne – Sunbury Leisure Centre and Eclipse Leisure Centre
- Surrey Heath – Places Leisure Centre, Camberley
- Tandridge – De Stafford Leisure Centre and Tandridge Leisure Centre
- Waverley – Cranleigh Leisure Centre, Farnham Leisure Centre, Godalming Leisure Centre and Haslemere Leisure Centre
- Woking – Eastwood Leisure Centre, SportsBox, Woking Leisure Centre

The centre closest to the postal address should be chosen.



Q. Can a guest/friend accompany the young person?

A. Guests and accompanying people:

- Under 16: 1 free adult
- Ages 16-17: 1 friend or adult (no gym access)
- Ages 16-17 with additional needs: 1 friend/ adult (including gym access)
- Care Leavers (18-25) with additional needs: 1 free adult
- Care Leavers without additional needs: no guest entitlement

Foster carers and their children:

- 50% concession (varies by provider)
- Not available for children of foster carers in Woking and Waverley
- At Places Leisure: pay-as-you-go only

Q. How can workers apply for the Leisure Offer?

A. The application form for the Leisure Offer is an internal only form, so can only be completed by the young person's SCC worker.

Care Leavers & Children Looked After:

[Application - Leisure Offer for: Care Leavers & Children Looked After](#)

Foster Families (for applications including Foster Carers' Birth/Adopted Children):

[Application - Leisure Offer for: Foster Families](#)

Any queries should be emailed to
leisure.offer@surreycc.gov.uk.



Q. How long will it take to get a leisure centre membership through the scheme?

A. Once we have done our part each leisure centre will need to set up the membership on their system and prepare a membership card. As there are 5 different leisure operators as part of this scheme, timings will vary depending on their own internal processes. Once this is done, we will write to young people/foster families, via their social worker/personal advisor/supervising social worker to let them know they can go and collect their card. The young person will need to take ID with them to the centre on that occasion to confirm the name matches that on the letter. Details will also be included on setting up any concessionary memberships.

Q. Why are there additional forms to complete?

A. If the application is for Mole Valley, Reigate & Banstead (operated by GLL), Waverley or Woking (operated by Everyone Active), an external form will need to be completed for memberships (and any accompanying others). This is required as part of their internal processes to support this scheme. The SCC application form does still need to be completed as these operators will verify applications with the Leisure Offer Team. Confirmation letters will not be issued for these operators as an email will come directly from their teams with joining instructions.



Q. What happens if a young person who has a leisure membership through the scheme moves house/placement?

A. If a young person moves, please email leisure.offer@surreycc.gov.uk who can cancel the existing membership. If the young person moves within Surrey and wants a membership at a different nearby centre, a new application is required. If the young person moves out of Surrey to another part of the country, they are no longer eligible for the scheme.

Q. How can young people who live out of county apply for the scheme?

A. While we want to support all young people who are looked after and care leavers to be healthy and active, equivalent arrangements are not in place with leisure providers outside of Surrey. Please refer to [Care Leaver Offer](#) (external) or [Corporate Parenting](#) (internal) for further information on schemes for those living out of county. If the young person is under 16, they can apply for some support from the [Celebration Fund](#) to pay for a gym membership but will need to meet the scheme's criteria.

Q. Will a membership be removed if it is not used frequently?

A. We want to support young people to be more active and healthy with their leisure membership but we do understand that people's circumstances change and that there might be a reason why someone cannot use their membership for a period of time. We will not penalise the young person in any way for doing this. What we would ask is that memberships applications



are not submitted until the young person is ready to take it up, so that people's applications which are going to be used straight away can be prioritised.

Q. Are young people who have been adopted or have SGOs eligible to apply?

A. Although adopted children and those with SGOs have entitlements as previously looked after children/young people, this leisure offer is only open to children who are currently looked after by Surrey County Council and formal care leavers from Surrey County Council care, this being those who leave care as they approach adulthood.

Q. Are respite or EDT carers eligible to apply?

A. The offer is designed for Children Looked After and Care Leavers. While Foster Carers can access it via the young person in their care, the membership is linked specifically to the young person and must be set up through them. Therefore, unfortunately carers cannot access the offer in their own right.

Q. What happens if the young person is not issued with the correct card or refused entry with their leisure card?

A. If the young person faces any difficulties accessing their nominated leisure centre with their free leisure card, please e-mail leisure.offer@surreycc.gov.uk. Please note that it may be quicker to reach a resolution by contacting the leisure centre directly in the first instance.