

Childcare futures

Annual Review 2008





Prime Minister Rt Hon Gordon Brown MP with Daycare Trust Chair Rita Stringfellow.

“I was involved in Daycare Trust right in the beginning. I saw the good that you were doing and I saw your ambition for the future and I was at the first National childcare week which I think was 11 years ago. I have seen the progress of this organisation and it’s because of you and because of what you’ve done that there are now 1.2 million childcare places in this country. It’s because of you that we have Sure Start Children Centres being built all over the country.”

Rt Hon Gordon Brown MP

Excerpt from the Prime Minister’s speech at the launch of National Childcare Week 2008 in June at 10 Downing Street.

Thanks to...

Daycare Trust would like to extend its thanks to all of the following people and organisations who have helped and supported us in 2007-8. We would firstly like to thank the following organisations which continue to provide us with major funding:

- Department for Children, Schools and Families
- Esmée Fairbairn Foundation
- Friends Provident
- Her Majesty’s Revenue and Customs
- London Councils
- London Development Agency
- The Nuffield Foundation

We would also like to thank *Imagine Co-operative Childcare*, for funding our annual childcare costs and holiday costs surveys, and *My Family Care* and *Community Playthings* for supporting our paying for childcare costs marketing materials; *Awards for All Big Lottery Fund* for sponsoring our project giving childcare advice for refugees living in Sheffield; *the TUC* for backing our Childcare Workforce Policy Paper. Thanks to; *Volant Trust*, *the Fitton Trust*, *The Fowler Smith* and *Jones Charitable Trust*, *Sosnow Charitable Trust*, *Shanticot* and *Kiddivouchers* for their generous donations and; *Dechert LLP* in particular for continuing to provide pro bono legal support.

Finally, we would like to thank all of those who have helped us through community fundraising, sponsored events, or individual donations.

Chair's message



This year has been a crucially important one for Daycare Trust. The year we celebrated our 21st Anniversary and saw the Government and opposition parties turn their focus onto developing family friendly policies. As an organisation that has been campaigning for high quality affordable childcare and flexible working for over 21 years we are pleased to have seen so many converts. Things have been moving fast, and after the Government's announcements

that they intend to extend the free childcare entitlement to two year olds and enshrine Sure Start Children's Centres in statute, it seemed that we were inching toward a long held dream of universally available childcare for all. Likewise, the announcement that the Government were to implement Imelda Walsh's recommendations on extending flexible working to the parents of older children was extremely welcome.

The recent economic uncertainty led to suggestions that these family friendly policy changes should perhaps be 'put on ice' until happier times, but at Daycare Trust we are clear that work remains the best way to avoid and escape poverty, and that's why flexible working and accessible, affordable childcare are more important than ever. When times are hard we should not be forcing parents to choose between caring for their family and bringing home much needed income. Over the coming year policy makers need a sharp focus on the Early Childhood Education and Care workforce; a workforce who all too often suffer poor pay and conditions with limited opportunities for professional development and is 98% female. Now is the time to offer support to families to work flexibly and help them stay in work.

Our work at Daycare Trust would not be possible without the dedication of our hard working staff team, our trustees, the partners we work with; our members, our donors and of course the many childcare settings that made National childcare week such a success. I would like to thank you all, and I look forward to working with you over the year ahead.



Rita Stringfellow
Chair, Daycare Trust

Chief Executives write



This has been a great year for Daycare Trust. In a dynamic, rapidly changing political climate we have built upon our recent progress by producing opinion leading research such as our landmark report '*Childcare Nation*' and our ongoing '*Listening to Families*' series. We have also entered new policy territory, exemplified by our recent research report on the early childhood and education workforce with the TUC: '*Raising the bar*', and our work with the Nuffield Foundation on costing quality childcare.

We have developed our information services by introducing expanded hours and a translation service to our information line. Our training programmes continue to be popular and have also moved into new territory, such as our new National Lottery funded work supporting refugee families. We have also begun a 4 year project funded by London Councils helping local authorities in London to increase access to affordable, quality childcare for London families. We were delighted that the DCSF recently agreed to provide us with funding to create a tool kit to help local authorities roll out our fantastic Parent Champions project. You can read what this project means for parents later on in this report.

Looking back on a year of progress, a year spent on the front foot, it has been especially important for us that all of our work has been informed by our core aim of campaigning for quality, affordable, childcare for all. We hope you enjoy this short review of our year, and look forward to reporting back on another successful year next autumn.



Alison Garnham & Emma Knights
Joint Chief Executives

Daycare Trust Annual Conference 2007

National childcare week 2-9 June 2008



Daycare Trust began our 21st Birthday year at our Annual Conference held at the CBI Conference Centre last November, sponsored by The Children's Mutual. The theme was: 'The Cost of Quality – What is Childcare Worth?' The day brought childcare providers and policy makers together to debate the critical issue in childcare today, how to drive up quality in childcare without passing the costs on to parents.

The day was chaired by journalist Yvonne Roberts, and started with a great speech from Karl Le Quesne from the New Zealand Ministry of Education who outlined New Zealand's ambitious plans to have a 100% graduate workforce in its Early Childhood Centres by 2012.

Jane Kennedy MP made the keynote speech at the conference, her first speech as Financial Secretary to the Treasury. Jane announced that from 2009 all expectant mothers will be entitled to a 'Health in Pregnancy Grant' worth £190 and available from the 25th week of pregnancy.

Delegates attended one of the three *Learning from Good Practice* sessions and also could join in by posing questions to our panel who included Maria Miller MP, Shadow Minister for Family and Welfare, Annette Brooke MP, Shadow Minister for Children, Young People and Families, Paul Gregg from University of Bristol and Alison Garnham, Daycare Trust.

Children's art and creative writing competition

We were inundated with entries from children around the country for our art and creative writing competition. Judging took place at our office, with all the entries on display. The judges included Keith Chapman, creator of Bob the Builder, Fifi & Roary the Racing Car; Sonali Gudka, BBC Newsround presenter; Jonathan Douglas, National Literacy Trust and David White of The Children's Mutual, sponsors of the competition.



*The Tiger that came to tea by Demi Clayton
of Oaktree School, Enfield, winner of the senior art competition.*



Downing Street launch, 2 June

The theme of the eleventh annual National childcare week was 'Building brighter futures'. The Prime Minister launched the week at 10 Downing Street, at a ceremony in which he introduced the awards for the art and creative writing competition.

All the winners were presented with their awards by the competition judges plus Children's Minister Beverley Hughes. After the awards presentations the winners met Gordon Brown and his wife Sarah to receive a small prize and congratulations.

Childcare settings all over the country got involved with their own activities. There were lots of imaginative ideas for activities which included balloon races, rhythm and rhyme sessions, story time reading, teddy bears' picnic and fun days. Childcare workers, children and parents joined together to have fun and celebrate national childcare week in their local community. *Nursery World* and *Children & Young People Now* kindly helped publicise the week.



Children's Minister Beverley Hughes MP



"National childcare week is a great way to mark the importance of childcare and I extend my best wishes to all those parents, childcare professionals and young people up and down the country who are taking part in events to mark it."

Rt Hon Gordon Brown MP, Prime Minister

Circus in the park, 9 June 2008

The circus came to town, pitching its big top on the grounds of Buile Hill Park in Salford, Manchester, thanks to *Catalyst Lend Lease* who kindly sponsored our circus in the park event. On a perfect summers day over 250 excited children arrived from local schools, nurseries and children's centres.

Local MP, Barbara Keeley, welcomed everyone to the event and introduced the circus acts which included amazing gymnasts, a magician and a clown. After the circus, parents, carers and children enjoyed a picnic lunch in the park and tried their hand at plate spinning, hula hooping and face painting. Local artist Michelle Leigh worked with the children to create their own leaf artwork showing their hopes for the future which were stuck onto a 'wishing tree'. The tree was transported back to London and currently graces our offices here at Daycare Trust.



The good childhood conflict, Policy debate, 11 June 2008

To underline the important policy messages behind national childcare week, Daycare Trust organised a high-profile policy debate at HM Treasury, supported by Sanofi Pasteur MSD entitled: *'The good childhood conflict, balancing the needs of parents, children and employers'*. An expert panel made up of The Rt Hon John Hutton MP, Secretary of State for Business Enterprise and Regulatory Reform; Dr Katherine Rake, Fawcett Society; Kay Carberry, TUC; and Alison Garnham, Daycare Trust covered issues including the flexible working agenda, the gender pay gap and the business implications of implementing family friendly policies. Polly Toynbee, Guardian columnist and social commentator, took charge by chairing the seminar. A report from the event was produced and is available on Daycare Trust's website.



The Rt Hon John Hutton MP, Alison Garnham, Kay Carberry, Polly Toynbee and Dr Katherine Rake



"It's important that we support hard-working families, helping people to develop the best work-life balance through measures such as flexible working. In turn, these measures can help business gain through retaining skilled staff and savings on recruitment. This seminar rightly shines a light on the important issue of how we support people to raise families while enabling businesses to go on creating jobs."

Rt Hon John Hutton MP, former Secretary of State for Business, Enterprise and Regulatory Reform.



Left: Polly Toynbee,
Right: Dr Katherine Rake.

Policy and research

It has been a busy year for the policy and research team at Daycare Trust. 2007-08 saw several major announcements on childcare and early years education, many of which Daycare Trust had strongly lobbied on including: the proposed extension of the right to request flexible working; the review of tax credits; and the Government's stated ambition of extending the childcare entitlement to two year olds.

Over the past year we have carried out several important research projects starting with our landmark report '*Childcare Nation*' using the findings to support our key campaigning messages and lobbying activity.

We have engaged in intensive lobbying work over the reforms to lone parent benefits requiring parents to look for work when their youngest child is aged 12 from November 2008, with the age reducing to 10 years from October 2009 and 7 years from October 2010. In addition to submitting a comprehensive response to the large scale Government consultation, we held meetings with Ministers and worked closely with officials to ensure that lone parents who don't have access to suitable childcare are not penalised if they do not take up a job offer.

Daycare Trust have long championed the right of parents to work flexibly so they can balance their family responsibilities with paid work. We lobbied hard to ensure that the Department for Business, Enterprise and Regulatory Reform introduced the proposals recommended in Imelda Walsh's review which recommended that the right to request flexible working be widened to include parents with children up to the age of 16.

This year saw fewer policy consultations from DCSF than in previous years, as the Childcare Act 2006 beds in. Nevertheless, we have still completed ten consultation responses to three different Government departments, and submitted evidence to the Work and Pensions Select Committee.



"The Daycare Trust has an important and unique role to play in helping ensure flexible, high-quality and affordable childcare is available for families, when and where they need it"

Maria Miller MP, Shadow Minister for the Family

Listening to families

We are now in the final stage of the three-year research project '*Listening to families*' funded by the Department for Children, Schools and Families. This work stream will be completed this year with the publication of '*Listening to young people about childcare*', in which secondary-school aged children up to age 15 will be consulted on their views of out of school care for young people. We will mark the completion of '*Listening to Families*' with an event in March 2009 honouring the important contributions participants made throughout this project.

During our '*Listening to children*' strand we consulted eighty-eight children between the ages of six and 12 (18 for those with additional needs) about their experiences of and views on childcare today, particularly relevant given the Extended Schools agenda. Participants included children with additional needs, children from rural communities and children from black and minority ethnic communities.

"It makes me feel happy as well because like in the summer holidays before the scheme I used to wake up knowing I wasn't going anywhere so I used to just stay in my pyjamas and just sit around but like when I go to the scheme I know I'm going somewhere."

11 year old girl, East London

The children showed a sophisticated understanding of the practical benefits of childcare and the peace of mind it can provide working parents. The children also had a number of recommendations on how to improve childcare, including more outdoor play time and better play equipment. However, the most common recommendation from participants was simply to have more out of school care available for all children who wanted it.



Childcare nation?

In October 2007 we launched our landmark report *'Childcare nation?'* which took stock of progress on the Government's childcare strategy and priorities for the future. Working in partnership with the National Centre for Social Research, and funded by the Nuffield Foundation, our report reviewed existing research on the current state of childcare and early years provision and provided secondary analysis of the DCSF's Parents' Childcare Survey series and the Childcare Providers' series. We assessed the effectiveness and progression of the childcare strategy to date in order to identify gaps in provision and reflect on whether childcare meets parents' expectations. The report set out a number of proposals for future policy directions with a series of recommendations that have formed the basis of much of our lobbying and campaigns work over the past year.

'Childcare nation?' was launched at a high profile event in October 2007, with Karen Buck MP as our guest speaker, and a panel chaired by Norman Glass, Chief Executive of the NatCen.

Ensuring equality

Reports

This year saw the conclusion of our three-year *Ensuring equality* project, funded by the Esmée Fairbairn Foundation. The aim of this project was to explore the use of childcare services among black and minority ethnic families, raise awareness of the specific needs of different ethnic minority families, and make the voices of these families heard.

During the last year we conducted two major pieces of research in this workstream. The first was research with black and minority ethnic (BME) childcare workers exploring their views on engaging families from diverse communities, and the ethnic diversity of the

workforce. Key findings included that many childcare workers felt that some BME families continue to miss out on childcare opportunities because they don't see it as intended for 'people like them', seeing it as a white, middle-class service. The workers believed that having a diverse childcare workforce was important in order to make all families feel welcome at childcare settings. This, together with creating a warm childcare environment in which families' individual needs are considered and open communication between the setting and local families is established, are key factors to ensuring effective engagement with all families. A report: *Ensuring equality – The black and minority ethnic childcare workforce* was launched in March, presenting the key findings and recommendations.

On 21 May 2008, we held a seminar to launch these final papers in the *Ensuring equality* project and to host a discussion on issues around childcare provision for BME families, the ethnic diversity of the childcare workforce, and the work of local and national government in increasing childcare take-up amongst BME families. At the seminar we also launched a paper summarising the achievements and findings of the *Ensuring equality* project.

Childcare for adult learners in further education

In response to a substantial number of calls to our information line from adult students which reported a shortage of childcare places and funding, we conducted a small research project funded by the Nuffield Foundation to explore the difficulties faced by students in accessing childcare funding. A report was launched in December 2007 and we have since met with the Department for Innovation, Universities and Skills, as well as the Learning and Skills Council to discuss the recommendations in our report.

"As fellow members of the Campaign to End Child Poverty we at the Child Poverty Action Group have worked closely with Daycare Trust for many years, campaigning side by side on issues of child poverty and childcare. In both my work at CPAG and in my prior role at One Parent Families I have seen and admired Daycare Trust's work and I have enormous respect for the work they do"

Kate Green, Chief Executive, Child Poverty Action Group

Details on how to download or purchase copies of these reports are available on our website www.daycaretrust.org.uk.

Childcare costs surveys

Daycare Trust's two annual surveys of *Childcare costs* (January 2008) and *Holiday childcare costs* (July 2008) are now in their seventh year, and continue to attract huge attention from the major television, radio, newspapers and internet news providers. The two surveys, which use data gathered from Family Information Services (FIS) across the country still represent the definitive figures on childcare costs, and are used widely as a reference point across the media throughout the year. Thanks to funding from *Imagine Co-operative Childcare*, Daycare Trust were able to further widen dissemination of the reports by funding distribution of the finished report for each of the surveys.

The headlines from the surveys were eye-catching. The 2008 *Childcare costs survey* showed childcare costs rising above inflation in England and Wales. Scotland experienced a slight decrease in costs. In England the average weekly cost of a nursery place for a child under the age of 2 was £159 – a 5% increase on 2007.

The *Holiday childcare costs survey* registered even more alarming increases across Britain. The average cost of a holiday childcare place was up 10.1% in England, 8.6% in Scotland and 5.3% in Wales, with an overall average cost per place in Britain now at £87.43. In some English regions average costs had increased by over 20% year on year.

Another concern highlighted by both surveys was a number of Family Information Services reporting insufficient provision in their area, particularly holiday provision, for disabled children and for children aged 12 years and over. This is particularly worrying with new welfare reforms requiring lone parents with children of 12 years and over to make themselves available for work now in place.

Daycare Trust used the media coverage we received to encourage parents to claim all the help they are entitled to, checking whether they are accessing their free entitlement and whether they are eligible for tax credits or voucher schemes where costs may be prohibitive.

Details on how to download copies of the childcare costs surveys are available on our website www.daycaretrust.org.uk.



In September 2007, Daycare Trust launched an innovative new project to help hard to reach families to find out about and take up formal childcare. The Parent champions project established three pilot schemes in the London Boroughs of Camden, Newham and Tower Hamlets in which local parents were trained and supported to work as Parent champions. These Parent champions spread the word about formal childcare in their communities, reaching many parents who have little or no access to statutory services. By the end of the project in March 2008, 12 Parent champions spoke with almost 2,000 parents and helped 75 parents to start using formal childcare. In fact, the project was such a success that the DCSF have commissioned us to write up an assessment report of parent champion models and then create a tool kit for local authorities so they can put it into action in their communities.

Ten months ago, mother of three **Moymona Begum** attended a workshop at her local children's centre where she regularly took her youngest daughter Karema for 'stay and play' sessions. During the workshop, Moymona heard about the Parent champions project. *"I never knew about childcare with my two older children but with Karema, who is four, I could see the benefits she was gaining through attending these play sessions"* she said. *"I felt I could help other parents in finding out about childcare."*

Following the workshop, Moymona was interviewed and appointed as a Parent champion. *"The job involves visiting children's centres, toy libraries, baby clinics, even parks and speaking with other parents about childcare and the benefits of childcare. It's amazing how many people don't know about childcare. It's not that they don't want to use it, they just don't know much about it. Many have no idea how much their children can benefit developmentally from attending pre-school sessions; how it can give their children confidence; get them settled before attending school as well as giving the mums some time too. At the children's centres they run a lot of short courses for parents on parenting or first aid for example, and their children can attend the crèche. It means the children are getting settled and playing with other children and the parents are getting extra qualifications."*

Moymona offers parents a wide range of support: *"For some language is a barrier, so I will ring the Children's Information service for them if they want. For others, it's confidence or lack of knowledge so I will go along with them to their first sessions at a toy library or 'stay and play'. Often it's the first step that's the hardest and when they have attended once, their confidence grows and you can see the huge change in them. Their children are happier too. All the parents I speak to have my card and number so if they need to speak to me again they can or if they need extra help they can call."*



"It gives me great peace of mind and my confidence is building through doing this. Many mums are depressed and feel their lives have stopped when they have young children at home but it doesn't have to be like that. I am encouraging women to get out, to change their lives and to give their children a better start."

Moymona, Parent champion in Tower Hamlets.

There is no reason why the fantastic work Moymona did in Tower Hamlets, one of the poorest local authorities in the UK, cannot be replicated anywhere. We hope that local authorities will take advantage of the tool kit currently in production to make sure parents in their communities benefit from using childcare.

Consultancy

2007-2008 was a year of growth and development for Daycare Trust's Consultancy Service, as we undertook a wide range of childcare and early years-related projects for a clients including Government departments, local authorities, PVI providers, children's centres and employers.

The majority of our projects focussed on the new childcare duties placed on local authorities by the Childcare Act 2006. Daycare Trust supported several local authorities throughout England in relation to sections 6 and 11 of the Act; the duty to assess sufficient childcare in their local area, and section 12 of the Act; the duty to provide information, advice and assistance to parents and carers.

One common theme which arose out of the sufficiency assessments was the lack of sufficient childcare for disabled children and children with special educational needs. Daycare Trust Consultancy Service carried out two projects with local authorities around childcare provision for disabled children and the needs of disabled children and their families, working with the local authorities to develop a strategy for securing sufficient childcare for this group.

Another key area where Daycare Trust provided support to local authorities and childcare providers was around the issue of sustainability of childcare provision. Projects included the provision of training around business and financial planning to local childcare providers and local authority officers, the development of local strategies around sustainability and assisting individual providers to become viable.

More recently, Daycare Trust has worked with local authorities around the implementation of a single local formula for the funding of the free early years entitlement in the PVI and maintained sectors.

Daycare Trust Consultancy Service undertook projects in Wales, including help with childcare costs training for local authorities. Also, on behalf of the National Assembly for Wales, we undertook an analysis of public consultation responses to the Childcare Act 2006 sufficiency and information duties, as they apply in Wales.



Training

2007-2008 also saw the launch of Daycare Trust's Training Programme. Aimed primarily at local authorities, courses covered a range of issues designed to support local authorities in their role as strategic leaders in the childcare market, and as information and advice providers to parents and carers. Courses were run in London and in Manchester and included: Help with childcare costs; Finding and accessing the right childcare arrangement; Securing sufficient childcare; Providing information, advice and assistance; Involving parents in service development and delivery and Childcare data collection and analysis.

Daycare Trust have recently been awarded the maximum possible grant by *Awards for All*, a funding stream of the National Lottery which will fund a pilot project working with refugee families in Sheffield. The project will be delivered in co-operation with the Refugee Council and will begin in December 2008. The project will provide five free training sessions; three free outreach sessions for parents with interpreter support and two free training sessions for parent advisors living and working with refugees in Sheffield and the surrounding areas.

The project will encourage refugee parents and their children to take an active part in the neighbourhood and wider community in which they live, initially through their engagement with their child's childcare setting. Helping parents feel less isolated, more valued and more confident in their parenting.

Donation form

For Daycare Trust to continue its vital work, we need your support.

£5 could pay for a 5 minute call to our helpline, allowing a parent to talk to one of our specialist advisors about the help they could get to pay their childcare costs.

£15 could send 20 copies of *Childwise*, our quarterly magazine for parents, to a Children's Centre.

£30 could pay for a 10 minute call to our helpline using the interpretation service, allowing a parent who cannot speak English to have equal access to the help our skilled advisors provide.

£200 could pay for our parent information helpline for a three-hour session.

£450 could pay for the work of one of our childcare advisors for one day.

I am taking action to support Daycare Trust, in the campaign for affordable childcare for all children and parents.

Full name:

Address:

Postcode:

Telephone:

Email:

I wish to donate the sum of £ to 'Daycare Trust'

I enclose my cheque/postal order payable to 'Daycare Trust'.

OR

Please debit my Maestro / MasterCard / Visa / Visa Electron / Solo (please delete as appropriate)

Card Number:

Expiry Date:

Start Date:

Security Code:

3-digit code on the reverse of your card, on your signature strip.

Issue Number:

Gift Aid

If you are a UK tax payer, under the Government's Gift Aid Scheme, Daycare Trust can reclaim the tax you have already paid on your gift. This means that your donation can increase in value by nearly a third at no extra cost to you. Please tick the box below if you would like Daycare Trust to reclaim the tax on your gift.

I am a UK tax-payer and would Daycare Trust to treat all my donations from 6 April 2008 onwards as Gift Aid donations, until I notify you otherwise.

Signature

Date

Please return this donation form to **Daycare Trust, 21 St George's Road, London SE1 6ES**

Thank you for supporting us!

Daycare Trust is a Registered Charity No: 327279 Company No. 2063604 VAT Registered No: 830 9847 06.

From time to time Daycare Trust may use the details provided on your Donation form to send you information about future courses and other Daycare Trust events. If you do not wish to receive this information, please tick this box:

Daycare Trust Information Service

Over the last year Daycare Trust Information Service has supported around 450,000 parents, providers, employers, and advisers through our telephone information line, email enquiry service, factsheets, parent newsletters and web information.

Our national telephone information line and email enquiry services answer a wide range of questions from signposting to local services and outlining the different types of childcare available to checking tax credit entitlement and supporting employers to set up a childcare scheme in the workplace. Over the last year, 71% of the calls taken by our Information Line were from parents, and the majority of the parents who called us (65%) asked about help with the costs of childcare, including tax credits, employer-supported childcare and student grants and funds. Recent developments to the Information Service have seen the telephone Information Line increase its opening hours to five days a week and an interpretation service was introduced in October 2008.

Our website continues to offer a wide range of up-to-date information for parents and employers as well as promoting our research and policy work.

In March 2008, in response to the high demand for information about help with childcare costs, we launched a new satellite website for parents. The site – www.payingforchildcare.org.uk includes an interactive 'tax credit checker' tool for parents and was supported by free training sessions for advisers who work with low income families across the UK.

Trustees:

Rita Stringfellow, *Chair*; Martin Pilgrim, *Treasurer*; Pamela Calder; Clem Henricson; Sue Martin; June O'Sullivan and Liz Roberts;

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Alison Garnham & Emma Knights

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Membership

We would like to thank all our members for supporting us through the year. Membership of Daycare Trust provides the following benefits: access to up-to-date information on childcare and early education, publications and discounted rates for seminars, conferences and other events. If you are working in the childcare sector or have an interest in childcare then why not become a member. To find out more about membership rates and benefits visit www.daycaretrust.org.uk

Daycare Trust is currently running a parents network scheme which is free to join. This gives them, among other benefits, our quarterly magazine *ChildWise*, containing useful information about childcare and provides a forum for parents to express their views.

To join us, or to find out more about membership, download a membership form from our website, www.daycaretrust.org.uk, or call us on 020 7840 3350.

Use our online shop

Raise funds for us whenever you shop. Simply go to www.buyat/daycaretrust, our online shop. With a vast range of top retailers and businesses, from Amazon to Zurich Insurance, participating in the scheme, this is a brilliant way to do your shopping and support Daycare Trust at the same time, and it won't cost you a penny.

Are you paying for childcare?

NATIONAL CHILDCARE CAMPAIGN

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You could be receiving help towards your costs

Use our Tax Credit Checker to see if you can claim the childcare element of Working Tax Credit to help pay towards your eligible childcare costs.

For information about the financial support available to help you with your childcare costs, visit our **Paying for childcare** website:

www.payingforchildcare.org.uk

**Contact our Information Line on 0845 872 6251
or email info@payingforchildcare.org.uk**



LOTTERY FUNDED

NATIONAL CHILDCARE CAMPAIGN

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About Daycare Trust

Daycare Trust are the national childcare charity. We campaign for quality, accessible, affordable childcare for all and raising the voices of children, parents and carers. We lead the national childcare campaign by producing high quality research, developing credible policy recommendations through publications and the media, and by working with others. Our advice and information on childcare issues assists parents and carers, providers, employers, trade unions and policymakers.

Established in 1986, Daycare Trust has seen its campaigning translate into policy change, including the establishment of the national childcare strategy. However, access to quality childcare services is still dependent on where families live and on their income. In our 21st campaigning year, Daycare Trust is uniquely qualified to give a voice to parents facing a multiple range of challenges. Please support our campaign for universal quality affordable childcare.

Daycare Trust offers a range of services, including an information line, consultancy, training and membership. This year we are offering free membership to parents as a celebration of our achievements.

Contact us for details of our services or visit our website.

Daycare Trust

21 St George's Road
London
SE1 6ES

Email: info@daycaretrust.org.uk

Translation service now available

Information line: 0845 872 6251

(Monday, Tuesday, Thursday, Friday 10am – 1pm and 2pm – 5pm and Wednesday 2pm – 5pm)

www.daycaretrust.org.uk

www.payingforchildcare.org.uk

Our core objective:

To secure access to high quality affordable childcare for all children, young people and their parents in Great Britain.

We seek to achieve this so that every child achieves the best possible outcomes and no child suffers unequal life chances through lack of access to the highest quality education and care; and no parent is prevented from achieving their own ambitions for themselves and their children.

We will achieve this by being:

Influential – Being recognised as the leading national childcare campaign, exercising influence through high quality research and communications, and through appropriate partnership.

Expert – Promoting quality childcare and providing information and support to parents, carers and others involved in the childcare sector to enable them to make good choices.

Representative – Ensuring the childcare needs and entitlements of children and parents are voiced and heard, particularly the most disadvantaged groups.

Secure and Healthy – Being sustainable, well managed and successful organisation through effective internal operations, sound financial management, and the development of the organisation, its business and its people.