

If you have experience of working with disabled children or are willing to learn, you could provide invaluable support to a number of families.

If you are interested in becoming a fee paid carer, offering short breaks or support to a child with disabilities, or just want to find out more, please call **08000 969626** or visit **www.surreycc.gov.uk/fostering**

Production Managed by the Communications Team: 02/08/AD/CS1302

Could you help care for a disabled child?

Share the care week
9 - 16 March 2008



www.surreycc.gov.uk



SURREY
COUNTY COUNCIL

Making Surrey a better place

"It's difficult to explain but it's like for a few hours a weight is taken off your shoulders. It's beneficial for the whole family, and we are always so excited to see him when he comes back!"

Mother of a nine year old boy who goes to Family Link carers.

Whether you can give just a few hours or be a full-time carer, the Family Link scheme wants to talk to you.

Family Link supports families with disabled children by providing a carer to look after their child for a break. This gives the parents time to recharge while their child is in safe hands enjoying the experience of being with different people. Family Link carers offer a range of breaks, from a few hours after school once a month to overnight stays in the carers home.

The scheme is also looking for befrienders who can spend time with a young person in their home or help them take part in leisure activities. This helps them develop their independence and social skills.

Fee paid carers

The Family Link programme is particularly looking for two fee paid carers to work with children with complex health needs and autism. These carers work with parents to share the care of their disabled child.

In return for providing a minimum of 200 nights care a year to a number of severely disabled children (one at a time), fee paid carers receive:

- **a weekly retainer of £200**
- **an allowance for every night a child stays**
- **regular training, supervision and 24 hours support**
- **four weeks holiday a year.**