



Department
of Health &
Social Care

Healthy Start for children and families with no recourse to public funds

Who should Healthy Start be for?



Easy
Read

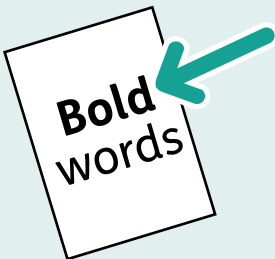
Easy Read



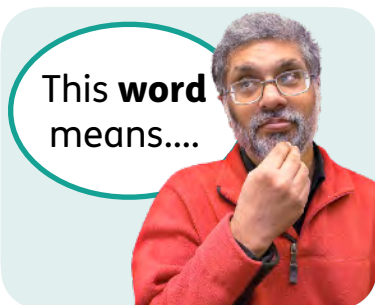
This is an Easy Read version of some information. It may not include all of the information but it will tell you about the important parts.



This Easy Read booklet uses easier words and pictures. Some people may still want help to read it.



Some words are in **bold** - this means the writing is thicker and darker. These are important words in the booklet.



Sometimes if a bold word is hard to understand, we will explain what it means.



Blue and underlined words show links to websites and email addresses. You can click on these links on a computer.

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About this booklet



Department
of Health &
Social Care

This information is from the Department of Health and Social Care.



We want to find out what people think about whether **Healthy Start** should be given to families who have **no recourse to public funds**.

We will explain what **no recourse to public funds** means on page 12.

Healthy Start is a scheme that helps pregnant women and families to keep their children healthy, like giving them money to buy fruit and vegetables.



At the moment some families cannot use this scheme.



This is because the law says they cannot get any money from the government.

In this booklet we will tell you:



- Why some families cannot use this scheme.



- Our examples of how to change this.



We would like to know what you think about the examples and if you have any ideas.



You can answer the questions to tell us what you think.



Please send your answers back to us by 13 December 2024.

Why we are asking about this



We want to find out if you think giving Healthy Start to families who cannot get it at the moment is a good idea.



We also want to find out if this would affect people from different backgrounds.



We are not asking about children and pregnant women who can already get Healthy Start.

Giving Healthy Start to more families might help with:



- Making sure children and mothers who are pregnant can eat healthier food.



- Supporting businesses where people buy healthy food from.



- Giving more children vitamins to help them have a healthy diet.

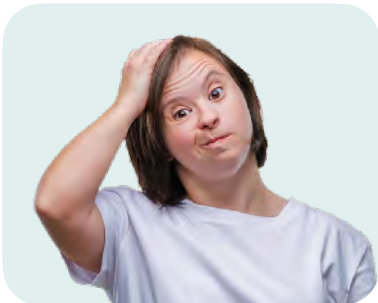


- Giving pregnant women and breastfeeding women vitamins to help them have a healthy diet.

But there might be some challenges to giving more families Healthy Start, like:



- It would cost the government more money to help more children and pregnant women.



- How people can show they are not allowed certain benefits because they have no recourse to public funds.



We are finding out information about Healthy Start for England, Wales and Northern Ireland.



Scotland has its own scheme which we are not asking about.

About Healthy Start



The UK government wants to help children to be healthier than ever before.



They are doing this by running schemes like Healthy Start.

Healthy Start gives families:



- Money for healthy food.



- Vitamins to help with a healthy diet.

Healthy Start supports:



- Pregnant women.



- Mothers and families with at least 1 child under 4 years old.



Under 18

Healthy Start also helps anyone under 18 years old who is pregnant.

Healthy Start gives:



- £4.25 a week to pregnant women and children aged over 1 and under 4 years old.



- £8.50 a week for children aged under 1 year old.



Families can get support from Healthy Start if they get certain **benefits**.

Benefits are money from the government to help pay for things that people need.



Some people cannot get some benefits because they have **no recourse to public funds** or because of their **immigration status**.

We will explain what **no recourse to public funds** means on page 12.



Immigration status means the type of permission a person has to live in a country.



So these people cannot get help from Healthy Start.



We want to know your views on offering Healthy Start to families who have **no recourse to public funds**.

About no recourse to public funds



No recourse to public funds means that someone cannot always get money from the government.



This is usually because the government expects people who are starting a new life in the UK to pay for everything they need without getting any help from the government.



This includes things like benefits and support with housing.



People who are not **British citizens** may have no recourse to public funds because they are living in the UK for only a short time.



A **British citizen** is someone who has the right to live in the UK, vote in elections and has a British passport. Most British citizens are born in the UK.

People who are not British citizens may also have no recourse to public funds because they:



- Have not left the UK by the date they should have.



- Have come to the UK without permission.



Most families who have no recourse to public funds cannot get help from Healthy Start.



In 2021 the government made Healthy Start bigger to give these families help from Healthy Start - we call this an extension.



This extension is for British children under the age of 4 whose family has no recourse to public funds.



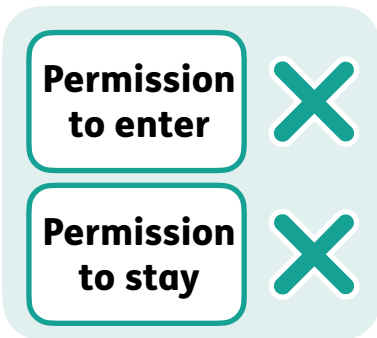
They can also get Healthy Start. You can go to pages 9 and 10 to see what this includes.

About the questions



We are asking these questions to find out if support from Healthy Start should be given to others who have no recourse to public funds.

We would like to hear from people who:



- **Need permission to enter or stay in the UK** but do not have it.

Permission to enter or stay in the UK is when the government says that someone can live in the UK.



- Have permission to enter or stay in the UK but they have no recourse to public funds.



- Have permission to enter or stay in the UK with a **maintenance undertaking**.

A **maintenance undertaking** is when someone else has said they can support a person who is moving to the UK with money and housing.

We want to find out what people think about Healthy Start support being given to:



- Non-British children under 4 from families who have no recourse to public funds.



- Pregnant women who have no recourse to public funds.



- Mothers who have no recourse to public funds with children under 1 year old.

We would like to know what you think about both parts of Healthy Start, which are:



- The money that helps people to buy healthy food.



- Free Healthy Start vitamins.

Your email address



If you need to contact us about changing or deleting your answers, we will need to know your email address.



This is so we can check that your answers came from you.

If you would like to give us your email address, please write it here:

Questions for you to answer

At the moment Healthy Start only gives support to families who:



- Get other certain benefits, or



- Have no recourse to public funds but have at least 1 British child under 4 years old.



Question 1a: Do you agree or disagree that only these families should get support from Healthy Start?

Agree

Neither

Disagree

Do not know



Question 1b: Why did you choose this answer?

Please write no more than 350 words.

A large, empty rounded rectangular box with a teal border, intended for writing the answer to the question.



Question 2a: Do you agree or disagree with giving support from Healthy Start to non-British children under 4 years old from families who have no recourse to public funds?

Agree

Neither

Disagree

Do not know



Question 2b: Why did you choose this answer?

Please write no more than 350 words.



Question 3a: Do you agree or disagree with giving support from Healthy Start to pregnant women who have no recourse to public funds?

Agree

Neither

Disagree

Do not know



Question 3b: Why did you choose this answer?

Please write no more than 350 words.



Question 4a: Do you agree or disagree with giving support from Healthy Start to mothers with children under 1 year old who have no recourse to public funds?

Agree

Neither

Disagree

Do not know



Question 4b: Why did you choose this answer?

Please write no more than 350 words.



Question 5a: Are there any other groups of people with no recourse to public funds who **should** get support from Healthy Start?

Yes

No

Do not know



Question 5b: Why did you choose this answer?

Please write no more than 350 words.



Question 6a: Are there any other groups of people with no recourse to public funds who **should not** get support from Healthy Start?

Yes

No

Do not know



Question 6b: Why did you choose this answer?

Please write no more than 350 words.

Good and bad points about helping more people with Healthy Start

We would like to know if you think there are any good or bad points about Healthy Start supporting:



- Non-British children under 4 from families who have no recourse to public funds.



- Pregnant women who have no recourse to public funds.



- Mothers who have no recourse to public funds with children under 1 year old.



Question 7a: Do you agree or disagree that there would be good points about supporting these people with Healthy Start?

Agree

Neither

Disagree

Do not know



Question 7b: Why did you choose this answer?

Please write no more than 350 words.



Question 8a: Do you agree or disagree that there would be bad points about supporting these people with Healthy Start?

Agree

Neither

Disagree

Do not know



Question 8b: Why did you choose this answer?

Please write no more than 350 words.



Question 8c: If you said you agree that there would be bad points, do you have any ideas about how we could deal with these?

Please write no more than 350 words.

A large, empty rounded rectangular box with a teal border, intended for writing an answer to Question 8c.



Question 9: Please tell us anything else about giving support from Healthy Start to people who have no recourse to public funds.

Please write no more than 350 words.

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Questions if you are answering for yourself

To get help from Healthy Start, the parent or guardian of the child must:



- Have 1 or more British children aged under 4 years old.



- Get no more than £408 in pay every month.



- Have no recourse to public funds.



Question 10a: Do all of the things listed on page 29 apply to you?

Yes

No

Do not know



Question 10b: If you ticked no, please tell us why.

Please write no more than 350 words.

Questions if you are answering as a professional or organisation



Question 11: Do you work with families that are all of the things listed on page 29?

Yes

No

Do not know



Question 12: If you do, how many of these families would you say you work with?

10 or fewer

11 to 20

21 to 30

31 to 40

41 to 50

More than 50



Question 13: Do you work with families with no recourse to public funds who cannot get help from the Healthy Start extension?

Yes

No

Do not know



Question 14: If you do, how many of these families would you say you work with?

10 or fewer

11 to 20

21 to 30

31 to 40

41 to 50

More than 50



Question 15: Please tell us why these families cannot get help from Healthy Start.

Please write no more than 350 words.

Questions about how these changes might affect people from different backgrounds



The law says we must understand that if changes happen, if they would have a bad effect on people because of their background.



Someone's background includes things like:

- Age.



- Disability.



- Whether they have changed their **gender**.

Gender is whether you are a man, a woman or use a different word to describe your gender.

Someone's background also includes things like:



- Whether they are married or in a civil partnership.



- Whether they are pregnant or have a new baby.



- **Race or ethnic background.**

Your **race or ethnic background** is the colour of your skin and the country that your family comes from.



- Religion or belief.

Someone's background also includes things like:



- **Sex.**

Someone's **sex** is whether they are female or male.

This is usually decided by a doctor at birth and it is based on the person's private parts.



- **Sexual orientation** - this is who you are attracted to.

We are interested in how supporting families with no recourse to public funds with Healthy Start would affect people because:



- Of their race.



- They are pregnant or have a new baby.



- Of anything else from the list on pages 35 to 37.



Question 15a: Do you think giving more people Healthy Start support would have a good or bad effect on people because of their race?

Good effect

Neither

Bad effect

Do not know



Question 15b: Why did you choose this answer?

Please write no more than 350 words.



Question 16a: Do you think giving more people Healthy Start support would have a good or bad effect on people because they are pregnant or have a new baby?

Good effect

Neither

Bad effect

Do not know



Question 16b: Why did you choose this answer?

Please write no more than 350 words.



Question 17a: Do you think giving more people Healthy Start support would have a good or bad effect on anyone else because of their background?

Good effect

Neither

Bad effect

Do not know



Question 17b: Why did you choose this answer?

Please write no more than 350 words.



Question 18a: Do you think **not** giving more people Healthy Start support would have a good or bad effect on people because of their race?

Good effect

Neither

Bad effect

Do not know



Question 18b: Why did you choose this answer?

Please write no more than 350 words.



Question 19a: Do you think **not** giving more people Healthy Start support would have a good or bad effect on people because they are pregnant or have a new baby?

Good effect

Neither

Bad effect

Do not know



Question 19b: Why did you choose this answer?

Please write no more than 350 words.



Question 20a: Do you think **not** giving more people Healthy Start support would have a good or bad effect on anyone else because of their background?

Good effect

Neither

Bad effect

Do not know



Question 20b: Why did you choose this answer?

Please write no more than 350 words.



Question 21: Please tell us anything else about how giving support to people who have no recourse to public funds might affect them because of their background.

Please write no more than 350 words.

How to tell us what you think



We are finding out what people think until 11.59pm on 13 December 2024.



You can send your answers to:

Healthy Start Team
2NW 022
Department of Health and Social Care
Quarry House
Quarry Hill
Leeds
LS2 7UE



If you have any questions about this survey you can email us at:

nrpfconsultation@dhsc.gov.uk

Keeping your information safe



The only information we will collect about you is your email address.



This is only if you give your email address to us.



We will follow the law about keeping your information safe and private.



We will keep your information for up to 12 months after the survey closes. We will then delete it.

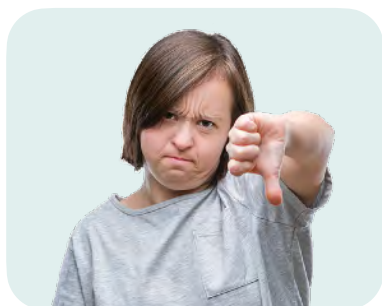
If you are not happy about how we have kept your personal information, you can complain by:



- Email:
data_protection@dhsc.gov.uk



- Post:
Data Protection Officer
First Floor North
39 Victoria Street
London
SW1H 0EU



If you are not happy with how we deal with your complaint, you can complain to the Information Commissioner's Office.



You can find out how to do this on their website:
www.ico.org.uk/make-a-complaint

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