



Under 5s Food and Health Policy in England – an overview



Choosing Health

- Public Health Policy for England
- Published 2004
- Linked to reducing child poverty targets (halved by 2010)
- Developing an integrated framework for child health



SureStart

- Government programme *'to deliver best start in life for every child by bringing together early education, childcare, health and family support'*.
- Targeted towards local areas or disadvantage, but open to all.
- Children & families get integrated services & information from multidisciplinary teams.
- Have developed into Children's Centres
- Government plan to deliver a Sure Start Children's Centre to every community by 2010
- Currently have 524 local programmes most now forming basis of centres.



Sure Start

- Good quality early learning plus full day care provision for children (min10 hours/day, 5 days/week,48 weeks/year)
- Good quality teacher input
- Child & family health services - including ante-natal
- Parental outreach
- Family support services
- A base for a childminder network
- Support for children and parents with special needs
- Effective links with Jobcentre Plus to support parents/carers who wish to consider training or employment.



Healthy Start



- Piloted 2005, launched nationally 2006
- Replaced Welfare Food Scheme
- Income support, jobseekers allowance or child tax credit and income of <£14,495
- Vouchers worth £2.80 per week per child (£5.60 if under 1 year)
- Cows milk, fresh fruit and vegetable, infant formula
- Has increased number of retailers eligible include pharmacies and food co-ops



Every Child Matters

- Builds on NSF for Children
- Government aim for every child aged 0-19 to:
 - Be healthy
 - Stay Safe
 - Enjoy and achieve
 - Make a positive contribution
 - Achieve economic well being



Caroline Walker Trust

- Advocates the need for clear guidelines for nutrition standards for under 5s in childcare
- Eating Well for the Under 5s -2006
- Recommendations about food choice
- Campaigns for nutrient based standards and recommendations to form government standards for childcare