The Green Parent

writers guidelines

Please contact the editor, Melissa Corkhill, by email only and not by telephone - features@thegreenparent.co.uk
We regularly cover the following subject areas:

- Pregnancy and conscious birth
- Breastfeeding
- Family life
- Alternative education
- Natural health and beauty
- Food and drink
- Eco-house and garden
- Green travel
- Ethical fashion

Length of Features:
Between 1,500 to 2,000 words.

We appreciate your interest in writing for The Green Parent. We welcome unsolicited articles from regular readers, or those who are at least familiar with the topics covered and the ethos of the magazine.

Objectives: Our main objective is to provide information that empowers our readers to make changes and supports them in being their own experts. We like articles that have a strong point of view and come from the heart. Our choice of articles depends on the other material we have published on the subject, how new the topic is to us, and how unique the presentation is. It helps if you include photos.

Familiarise yourself with The Green Parent. We are more likely to publish your article if you are a Green Parent reader and are familiar with the issues we discuss. Think about the subjects you know well and those that are under covered. The Green Parent is a bi-monthly publication with an international readership of more than 100,000.

Copy requirements: Please submit your article as a Word Document and e-mail it as an attachment. Please double-space your manuscript. But do not format in any other way. Include contact details (name, address, tel and email address) within your email and all subsequent correspondence. Please include a brief biographical sketch at the end of your submission so that we can print it if your article is used.
Images: The availability of photos enhances the appeal of your article to us. Photos can be sent electronically or by mail in the form of prints or on CD Rom. Please do not send original images. We will eventually need high-resolution images if we publish your piece.

Originality: Please do not send us an article that you have already submitted elsewhere unless you have had the article returned or have heard that it is not going to be used.

Rights: Your contribution is for the use of your article for publishing in a particular edition. Articles will be used in the magazine and possibly on our web site. Contribution of your article is deemed as agreement to these conditions. We request that your article is not published elsewhere for at least six months from the date of publication in The Green Parent. And that republished articles carry the following: This article was first published in The Green Parent magazine, issue no: Date: including our web address: www.thegreenparent.co.uk.

Timing: Our procedure is to read and respond to articles within two months of receiving them. This can be a long time to wait, especially if you are eager for a reply. Please be patient. Contact us via email if you wish to inquire about your manuscript before hearing from us.

Once an article is received and we retain it, we may want to keep it for several issues; we plan quite a bit in advance and may have already selected articles for upcoming issues before we receive your article.

Even when an article is selected for an issue, it may be pulled for lack of space. These uncertainties make it difficult for us to be as specific in our acceptance as we would like; we appreciate your understanding of this creative process. We try not to keep an article longer than 6 months to a year because, although we may like it, we feel it should have a chance in another market.

Rejection: Our hardest task is returning articles that we cannot use. We try to be honest in our replies, but it is not always possible to provide...
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in-depth feedback. We evaluate all articles in light of the other articles we have on hand, when last we covered the subject, and our readers’ interest in the subject matter. We retain only a small percentage of the articles we receive. Returning a manuscript is not a personal rejection; it is a practical consideration. We encourage you to submit your manuscript elsewhere if we cannot accept it.

We accept articles on a speculative basis so even if we have expressed an interest in, or given you the go-ahead on, a proposed article, we cannot guarantee its publication.

Rate of payment: We pay £75 per 1000 words. Payment is made on publication. In addition to payment, all authors receive a complimentary voucher copy of The Green Parent.

Expenses: Expenses are not usually paid, except in exceptional circumstances, and then only by prior arrangement.

Ethos: The Green Parent is an editorially-led magazine with a self-imposed ceiling of 25 percent advertising as well as self-imposed advertiser criteria (advertisers must reflect the values of The Green Parent - no disposable nappies, no formula milks or products that undermine breastfeeding, no electronic or plastic toys, no TV - or related-branded products, no products tested on animals etc). It is unusual for a magazine such as ours to pay for articles but we feel that it is important to ensure the high level of journalism that our readers have come to expect and we are also keen to support those writers who are stay-at-home parents.

Thank you once again for your interest in The Green Parent magazine. Enjoy your writing journey!

Melissa Corkhill, Editor