# Overview: Putting more money in your pocket



This section is designed to give you a strong understanding of your relationship with money. It will help you see exactly where your money comes from, how much you have, what you are spending on and how much you are spending.

You can see a glossary of commonly used terms on our jargon buster www.consumerhelp.ie/jargon-buster



### Student Worksheet 1.1: Examine your own spending



#### Exercise A

- Fill out the spending diary on the next page.
- Every day, write down everything you spend any money on.
- At the end of the week, add it all up and see where you've spent your money.





### **Student Worksheet 1.1:** Examine your own spending

### Your spending diary

	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday	Sunday	TOTAL
Clothes								
Entertainment (cinema, gigs, music etc)								
Food & drink								
Mobile phone								
Sports & hobbies								
Toiletries /grooming								
Transport								
Other (list)								
Total (add up the total amount you spent each day and add all totals to get your weekly spend)								

### Student Worksheet 1.1: Examine your own spending



### Exercise B

What are the top 5 items you spent most of your money on last week?

Top 5	Total Cost
1	€
2	€
3	€
4	€
5	€

### Student Worksheet 1.1: Examine your own spending



Look at all the items you included in your spending diary and list each one under the relevant column according to whether you think it is an 'essential' or a 'non essential' expense. Then add up how much you spent under each column for the week.

Essential	Total spent in week	Non essential	Total spent in week
	€		€
	€		€
	€		€
	€		€
	€		€
	€		€
	€		€
	€		€
Total	€	Total	€

### **Exercise D**

Have a discussion with your classmates about the 'big spending' items that you think you have in common.

### Student Worksheet 1.2: Making your budget



#### **Exercise A**

Using the Money saving tips on www.consumerhelp.ie/moneysavingtips write down areas where you are going to cut back on your spending. Take a look at the 'non essential' items you listed in worksheet 1.1, Exercise C.

Areas you can cut back	





## Student Worksheet 1.2: Making your budget

### **Exercise B**

When you know how much money you can save by making cutbacks, make a year long budget showing how much money you could save each month. Draw up a budget based on our table below:

	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec
Money in												
Cutbacks												
Money saved												

Think of what you may need this money for and if the amount you save would be enough for it. For example, it could be for your debs, a new iphone, a birthday present or just savings for a rainy day.

### Student Worksheet 1.3: Working out your income



If you want more money in your pocket, you need to figure out how much money you have to start with.

Your teacher will put you into a group and give you details of a case study. Take a look at your case study. They have a certain amount of money coming in every week or month. Some case studies are earning a wage. Others are getting social welfare payments like the dole or a student grant.

#### **Exercise A**

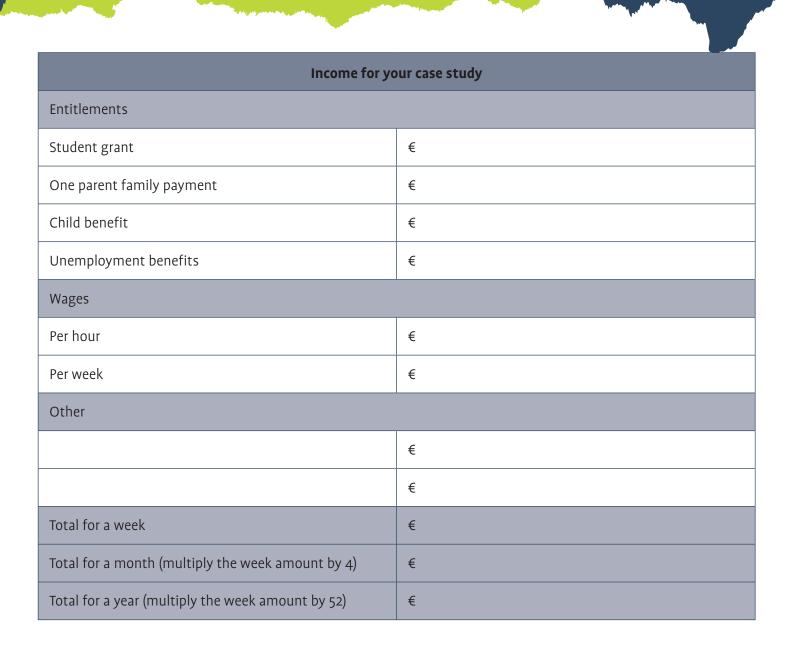
Fill out the income sheet on the next page with the information from your case study. They might have more than one kind of income.

Once you have done this, add up all your case study's income and see how much money they have for a week and for a month.





### Student Worksheet 1.3: Working out your income



### Student Worksheet 1.4: Working out your expenses



In worksheet 1.3, you figured out how much money your case study has each week or month.

#### **Exercise A**

Read through your case study and find out which costs to fill into the worksheet on the next two pages. Most costs are weekly (like food) but some are monthly (like gas bills) and others are annual, for example, motor insurance renewals.

#### **Exercise B**

If they have future plans, go to our website at **www.consumerhelp.ie** to help find out what the estimated cost is and fill in those costs over the page.





### Student Worksheet 1.4: Working out your expenses



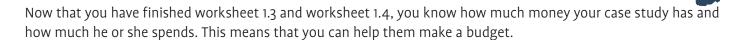
Expenses for Your Case Study					
Item	Weekly cost	Monthly cost	Annual cost		
Car costs					
Motor insurance					
Motor tax					
Petrol					
Maintenance (including repair costs)					
Hire purchase repayments					
Home costs					
Rent					
Gas/Electricity					
TV Provider					
Child expenses					
TV licence					
Mobile phone					
Food					

### Student Worksheet 1.4: Working out your expenses



Expenses for your case study continued					
Item	Weekly cost	Monthly cost	Annual cost		
Hobbies					
Cinema					
Going out					
Clothes					
Future plans					
Wedding expenses					
School expenses					
Holiday expenses					
Debs expenses					
College expenses					
Birthday expenses					
Interest loan repayment					
Sub-total	€	€	€		
Multiply by	X 52 = €	X 12=€	X1=€		
Total (add all three columns)	€				

### Student Worksheet 1.5: Budget planner



Making a budget is the best way to control your money. If you make a budget, you will see if you are spending too much and if you can make cutbacks in your spending.

#### **Exercise A**

Read through your answers on your income sheet (1.3) and your expense sheet (1.4).

#### **Exercise B**

Fill in the budget on the next two pages with the figures from those sheets.

#### **Exercise C**

Use the information in the budget planner to answer the questions in Exercise C.

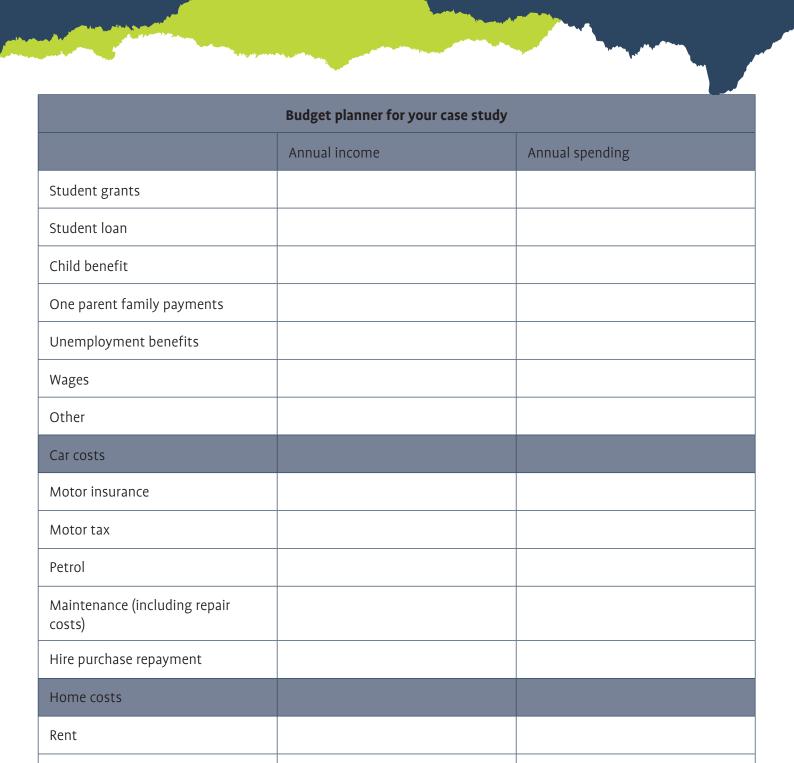




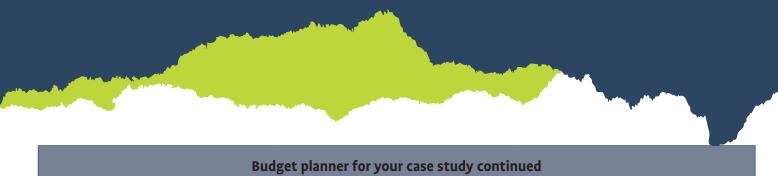
### Student Worksheet 1.5: Budget planner

Gas/Electricity

TV Provider



### Student Worksheet 1.5: Budget planner



Budget planner for your case study continued				
	Annual income	Annual spending		
TV licence				
Child expenses				
Mobile phones				
Food				
Hobbies				
Cinema				
Going out				
Clothes				
Future plans				
Wedding expenses				
School expenses				
Holiday expenses				
Debs expenses				
College expenses				
Birthday expenses				
Interest loan repayment				
Total				

### Student Worksheet 1.5: Budget planner

### **Exercise C**

Now take a look at the total income and total spending and answer the following questions using the case study.

1	Is your case study's spending bigger than their income?
2 mo	If they are spending more than they earn, look at their budget planner to see where they can cutback to save oney. Discuss with your classmates and write down your answers here:
3	'If they have more money than they need, what could they do with that money?