

CHILDREN'S CENTRES FULL CORE OFFER

Early years provision

- Integrated early learning and childcare for babies and children until they are five years old.
- Childcare suitable for working parents/carers for a minimum of 5 days a week, 48 weeks a year, 10 hours a day.
- Childcare places will be open to all, with a priority around disadvantaged families, but not just families in the immediate area (admission and fee policies will be determined locally).
- Support for childminders.
- Early identification of children with special needs and disabilities with inclusive services and support for their families.
- Links to local schools (extended schools and Healthy Schools) and out-of-school activities (holiday play schemes, before/after-school play and learning).

Family support and parental outreach

- Visits to all families in the catchment area within two months of the child's birth (through the Child Health Promotion Programme or agreed local arrangements).
- Information for parents/carers about the range of family support services and activities available in the area.
- Support and advice on parenting including support at significant transition points for the family (e.g. pre birth, early days, settling into childcare).
- Access to specialist, targeted services for those families which need them e.g support for parents/carers of disabled children.
- Activities which increase parents/carers' understanding of their child's development.
- Specific strategies and activities which increase the involvement of fathers.

Child and family health services

- Antenatal advice and support for parents/carers.
- Child Health Promotion Programme.
- Information and guidance on breast feeding, hygiene, nutrition and safety.
- Promoting positive mental health and emotional wellbeing, including identification, support and care for those suffering from maternal depression, antenatally and postnatally.
- Speech and language and other specialist support.
- Support for healthy lifestyles.
- Help in stopping smoking.

Parental Involvement

- Consultation and information sharing with parents/carers, including fathers, on what services are needed, and systems to get user feedback on services.
- Ongoing arrangements in place to ensure parents/carers have a voice e.g. parents' forums.

Links with Jobcentre Plus

- Centres will link with Jobcentre Plus to encourage and support parents/carers who wish to consider training and employment