



# Information for Families



Sure Start Children's Centres



## What is a Children's Centre?



Each Children's Centre Team offers services from more than one building. You could find workers in church halls, community venues or a building called a 'Children's Centre'. It's a place that is welcoming and accessible to local families.

## Who might I find in a Children's Centre?

A wide range of people who work with children and families. Depending on the size of the Centre these could include Childminders, Family Learning, a Family Support Team, Health Visiting Teams, Job Centre Plus, an Integrated Services Team, Midwives, Nursery Staff, Primary Mental Health Workers, School Staff, Speech and Language Therapists, Teachers, the Toy Bus Team. If they aren't based in your Centre you will still be able to access the service they provide. Some of these workers are based in the Centres, and others can be there if needed.

## Who is a Children's Centre for?



In York all the Children's Centres include a primary school, therefore services are for families with children from before birth to 11 years.

**What does it cost?**



Children's Centre services are normally free or with occasional small charges. There are however fees for the private nurseries linked to the Children Centres.



**What does it offer?**

They're all different but they could offer:

- Play and childcare linked to nurseries, childminders and early education.
- Learning for children and adults.
- Home visiting and drop in sessions for children and their families.
- Support for families with children with special needs.
- Local midwifery, health visiting and speech and language services.
- Good links that can help parents back into training and work.
- You will find out more about what's going on in your area for families with young children.
- By joining in these activities you and your children can have fun, meet new people, and learn together.
- If you want to have help and support when things get a bit tough, we will try to help you to get the support and help you may need as quickly as possible.

## How do I get involved?

- Come to an activity
- Come to a Parent's Action Group/Parent Forum
- Register with your local Children's Centre

(If you are expecting a baby or have a child under 5, you will be asked if you would like to register with your local Children's Centre. This is so that you can be contacted with news and updates about Children's Centre services. The government also asks the Children's Centres to keep computer records, about the numbers and kinds of families they have registered to make sure that they are reaching as many families as possible, so the information you provide is also useful for this.)

For more information ring Family Information Service on **554628** or text 'info' to **07624 802244** and they will put you in touch with your local Children's Centre.

You'll be aware that we have a duty to protect children so that if we hear or become aware of anything that leads us to believe that a child is at risk, we have to pass on the information to the appropriate agency but we would do so with respect and sensitivity to all family members.

**This information can be provided in your own language.**

**我們也用您們的語言提供這個信息 (Cantonese)**

এই তথ্য আপনার নিজের ভাষায় দেয়া যেতে পারে। (Bengali)

Ta informacja może być dostarczona w twoim (Polish)  
własnym języku.

Bu bilgiyi kendi dilinizde almanız mümkündür. (Turkish)

یہ معلومات آپ کی اپنی زبان (بولی) میں بھی مہیا کی جا سکتی ہیں۔ (Urdu)

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