

**Overall Aim of the Service:** To provide sufficient high quality early years provision and support to families with children under the age of 5, and offer preventative and early help services for families with children aged 0-19.

## What do we offer?

### Early Years and Early Education

- Childcare Sufficiency Assessments.
- Quality & Improvement– support packages, Ofsted readiness, safeguarding support, etc.
- Guidance for all Early Years Providers.
- Promotion and funding for 15 hours funded early education for eligible 2 year olds.
- Promotion and funding for 15 -30 hours of funded childcare for eligible 3 and 4 year olds
- Additional support for vulnerable children.
- Supplementary funding for Early Years settings working with vulnerable groups.

### Children's Centre Service

- Provision of family and parenting support, and work to help parents to improve health and wellbeing, work readiness and school readiness.
- Provision of volunteering opportunities for parents and carers.

### Commissioning and Projects

- Deliver the Families Information Service.
- Communications and promotion.
- Joint commissioning to address speech, language and communication needs.

### Family Hubs

- Delivering Family Hub Networks bringing together services which offer help and support to expectant families, and families with children aged 0-19 (up to 25 years if young people have SEND).

## Why are we doing this work?

Early education is far more than childcare and aims to prepare young children to be ready to continue to learn when they enter statutory education.

Families benefit by a free childcare entitlement; this can reduce the barrier to employment; as well as closing the educational gaps at the earliest opportunities.

Improving outcomes for young children and their families, with a particular focus on the most disadvantaged families, reduces inequalities, supported by parenting aspirations, self-esteem and parenting skills, child and family health and life chances.

Family Hub Services focus on early help, identifying needs within families early and providing co-ordinated support before problems become more complex. This means that families experience a more joined up offer of support whether this is going to a physical Family Hub, through outreach or through Family Hub online resources.



## Key priorities for the service 2023-2024

- We will prepare for and progress new childcare reforms within national roll out dates
- We will develop and roll out Family Hub developments in Nottinghamshire
- We will support all parents and carers to have access to information through a variety of methods to enable them to access information, advice and guidance on a wide range of topics
- We will support children to be ready for nursery and school and help them achieve developmental milestones
- We will ensure that families and children who are identified as vulnerable or have several risk factors are supported early to prevent poor outcomes on their future life course
- We will support families to identify and achieve a range of positive outcomes in line with the national Supporting Families programme
- We will support families to help them be financially resilient during the cost-of-living crisis

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