

Children's Centre Update...

Reigate and Banstead

5 March 2007

Ten Year Childcare Strategy 'Choice for Parents, the Best Start for Children'

Vision:

... to ensure that every child gets the best start in life and to give parents more choice about how to balance work and family life

Strategy:

...to create a sustainable framework for high quality integrated early years and childcare services for all children and families, with an aim to mainstream early years and childcare provision

Vision for Children's Centres across Surrey

'Children's Centres in Surrey are where services work together in partnership with children, families and communities to make a difference to all.'

By working together and coordinating our efforts we can all help to make this vision a reality.

Children & Young People's Plan

Surrey Strategic Partnership

What is it and where do children's centres fit in?

It is a multi agency plan based on the five outcomes of Every Child Matters and on the National Service Framework for children, young people and maternity services.

Although not a blueprint for the delivery of services, the plan sets a strategic framework for all services to work together, identifying priorities, areas for improvement and ways to change.

Two of the 8 key priorities highlighted in the plan that are fundamental to the success of children's centres are:

- Access to integrated local services
- Increased influence of children' young people and the families on the design and delivery of services and local decision making.

Targets for Surrey - 50 Children's Centres by 31st March 2008

Phase 1 – 4 centres. Phase 2 – 46 centres

- areas 1-10 inclusive - Full Core Offer reflecting need and level of existing service
- 36 Graduated Offer to reflect the needs of the community

NW	SW	NE	SE
1 full core	3 full core	5 full core	1 full core
12 graduated	8 graduated	7 graduated	9 graduated
13 total	11 total	12 total	10 total

Full Core Offer

- Integrated early years provision
 - Integrated education and childcare for a minimum of 48 weeks per year, 10 hours per day, 5 days per week.
 - Childminder's Network
- Family support, parenting education and parental outreach
- Child and family health services
- Parental involvement
- Education, training and employment services including links with Job Centre Plus
- Access to wider services

Minimum level of service

Centres will have a role in the coordination of integrated services provided through outreach, as part of the LA framework for children's services.

Minimum level of service to be provided:

- Information on childcare and early years provision
- Information and support to access wider services
- Information and advice to parents
- Support to childminders
- Drop in sessions or early years provision
- Links to Job Centre Plus and health services

Who decides the level of service?

- Surestart Unit outline the range of integrated services to be provided for the full core and graduated offer centres and agree any variations on an individual basis.
- Local Authority evidence the level of offer to be provided after the mapping of local need, existing services and in consultation with the local community.

On what basis does the Local Authority make that decision?

- The proportion of families with children under five in the local population living in income deprived households
- The proportion of families with children under five in the local population with significant special needs
- The extent to which existing childcare providers meet parents' needs
- The prior existence of accessible services in the local area to meet the support needs of families with children under five.

Proposed Children's Centre offer across Reigate and Banstead

Area number	Area name	Provider
3	Merstham, Bletchingly, Nutfield	Furzeffield Primary School
11	Redhill	Welcare
20	Horley West	Meath Green Infant School
39	Leigh, Charlwood	Dovers Green School
48	Meadvale, Earlswood	Earlswood Infant School

Phase 1 Children's Centres in Reigate and Banstead

- Epsom Downs Children's Centre @ Epsom Downs Primary School

Surrey Children's Centres

A new opportunity to work with children and families.
Potential to change lives.

Lesley Hunt

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