

Early Help

2024 - 2025



www.mylifewarrington.co.uk/earlyhelp



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What is Early Help?

The purpose of Early Help is to support families at the earliest opportunity to enable families to reach their full potential. Any professional working with a child, young person and family, such as those based in schools, health services, or in voluntary sector organisations, can provide early help services by responding to identified needs in order to offer advice and guidance, support and intervention. Early Help works best when it is offered at the right time to the whole family and when services are delivered jointly by professionals. Early Help is everyone's business.

Warrington Borough Council's Early Help teams provide support to children, young people and their families as soon as difficulties start to emerge. The Early Help teams work with families and professionals to offer a range of support services:

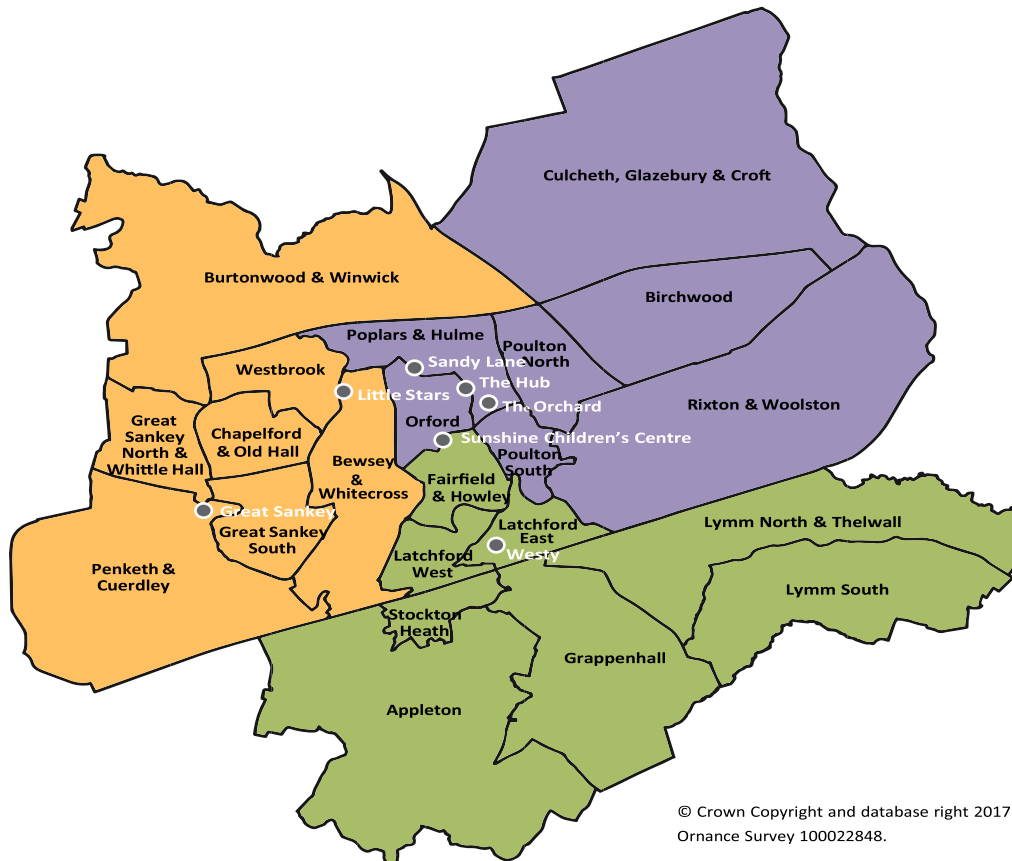
- Children's Centres (Family Hubs)
- Early Years Education and Childcare
- Support for Children (0-4) with Special Educational Needs and Disabilities (SEND)
- Family Support Services
- SEND Family Support Services
- Parenting Team
- Reducing Parental Conflict (RPC offer)
- Domestic Abuse Hub
- Youth Service
- Young Persons Drug & Alcohol Service
- Restore Team
- Early Help Support Team
- Safeguarding Children in Education Team (SCiE)
- Play and Sensory Centre



Locality Teams

There are three locality teams within Warrington (see map). Each locality team is made up of staff from different professional backgrounds including early years, children centres, family support, youth services, parenting and other specialist services.

Locality teams work with other partner agencies such as schools, health, police, community safety team, housing providers, probation and substance misuse providers to support children and families.



Early Help Assessment

Early Help Assessment (EHA) is the strength-based tool used to identify and assess needs in families and can be used by any professional working with a child, young person and family in Warrington. The assessment is completed in partnership with the whole family and a range of partner agencies in order to create a package of support that best meets the needs of the whole family. The Early Help Assessment monitors the child & families' journey and evidences outcomes to ensure that services are making a difference to families and to improve services for the future. The EHA is based upon the strengths of the family.



Children's Centres (Family Hubs)

There are currently 6 Children's Centres in Warrington which offer a variety of integrated health, wellbeing, universal and targeted support and early learning activities for children, young people and their families. Children's Centres continue to work with all family members to reduce inequalities in child development and school readiness.

East Locality Children's Centres

Sandy Lane Children's Centre, Sandy Lane, Orford, WA2 9HY - **01925 443 444 (option 1)**

The Orchard Children's Centre, Hilden Road, WA2 0JP - **01925 443 444 (option 1)**

South Locality Children's Centres

Westy Children's Centre, Tinsley Street, Latchford, WA4 1RE - **01925 443 444 (option 2)**

Sunshine Children's Centre, O'Leary Street, WA2 7RQ - **01925 443 444 (option 2)**

West Locality Children's Centres

Little Stars Children's Centre, Boulting Avenue, Dallam, WA5 0JG - **01925 443 444 (option 3)**

Great Sankey Children's Centre, Liverpool Road, WA5 1SB - **01925 443 444 (option 3)**

In September 2022 we started our journey towards transforming our current 6 Children's Centres into Family Hubs.

Family Hubs will:

- Bring services together to improve **access**
- Improve the **connections** between families, professionals and services
- Put **relationships** at the heart of family support

Our ambition is to ensure that local families can access the right support, at the right time, in the right place, with the right people.

From 2024 and beyond, you will start to see our 6 Children's Centres transform into Family Hubs. These will be a one-stop shop (epic centres) for a variety of services for children and families of all ages, giving opportunities to meet people, learn new things and find support.

For more information, please visit the Warrington Children's Centre Facebook page [Warrington Children's Centres](#) and the Family Hubs webpage [Warrington Family Hubs](#)



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Early Years Education & Childcare

In Warrington, there are a range of settings that provide education and learning in the early years (0-4). This includes playgroups, day nurseries, childminders and private nursery schools all of which can increase a child's social skills and enable learning through play.

To help parents and carers to take up these early learning opportunities for their children, they can access:

Funded Early Years Entitlement

This is a universal offer available to all 3- and 4-year-olds. They are able to access up to 15 hours of funded childcare from any provider and some 3- and 4-year-olds of working parents could even access up to 30 hours.

Funded childcare for 2-year-olds

This is a targeted offer with eligibility criteria attached, this may include some vulnerable 2-year-olds.

The council's Early Years team provides advice, guidance and support to practitioners, parents and carers on the many issues surrounding childcare and early years across Warrington.

Please use the following link to check your eligibility [Childcare Choices](#)

The team consists of:

- **Early Years Lead and the Early Years Quality Support Officer** who manage the delivery of the Early Years Foundation Stage (EYFS) support to childcare providers and promote high quality provision across the borough by supporting providers with their quality, business and training needs.
- **Early Years Childcare Development Officers** who support childminders and out of school providers, as well as providing a comprehensive professional development programme for the early year's workforce.



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Support for children (0-4) with special educational needs and disabilities

This Early Help service is available to children, young people and their families throughout Warrington. **SEND** support includes advocacy and specialist advice and activities to support children and young people to achieve their individual learning goals and to promote inclusive access to services.

The SEND Outreach Team supports childminders, day nurseries, preschools and maintained nurseries with advice and guidance if they have children with SEND attending their setting.

The Early Years SEND Support Team (previously known as Portage) offers a home visiting service and specific group sessions for pre-school children (under the age of 5) with special educational needs or a disability. The service includes:

- Support to develop play, communication, relationships and learning for young children within the family.
- Support to enable the child and family's participation and inclusion in the community.
- Work with parents, enabling them to take the lead role in their child's development.
- Helping parents to identify what is important to them and their child, planning goals for learning and participation.



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Family Support Service

Family support is delivered by a dedicated team of skilled and experienced workers. They support families at an early stage to improve and support the life chances of children, young people and the family as a whole.

The aim of the Family Support Team is to work alongside the family, with other agencies who are already working with them or who may become involved in the future. Together, we will work to make positive changes and improve family life.

Family Support teams work with families experiencing a range of challenges such as debt, housing issues, domestic violence, poor mental or emotional health, substance misuse, anti-social behaviour and neglect, through home visiting and assessment of needs.

The ethos of Early Help is to support families at the earliest opportunity to enable them to develop and grow independently, with the right support at the right time by the right professional.

A key aspect of the targeted help provided to families includes:

- Support to families with children aged 0-19/25 years old with complex and multiple needs.
- Complete strength-based assessments to support the whole family.
- Acting as lead professional for the family, helping the family to access support and work with other services to make changes.
- Provide parenting advice and working with the family to improve the confidence and self-esteem of children, young people and parents/carers.
- Being a positive role model and advocate for children and young people.
- Listening to the views of families and their children to provide support.
- Ensuring that the child's voice is heard and acted upon, using age appropriate communication methods suitable for the child.
- Direct work with children
- Hold and chair Team Around the Family (TAF) meetings.
- Multi-agency working in order to achieve the best outcomes for the children/young people.



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SEND Family Support Service

The Early Help SEND Team is a new team that came together in March 2023. The team is made up of a Team Manager and five SEND Family Support Workers. We are based at the Play and Sensory Centre in Woolston. We are the team that are responsible for supporting children and their families, when the overarching need is the child/young person's additional needs. We support young people right through to the transition to adulthood.

In summary, we are able to.

- Complete Early Help Assessments and create robust support plans.
- Complete Short Breaks Allocation Tools to explore the option of short breaks support.
- Review any current packages of support through short breaks/direct payments.
- Attend Short Breaks panel.
- Hold and chair Team Around the Family (TAF) meetings.
- Multi-agency working in order to achieve the best outcomes for the children/young people.
- Connect families to appropriate support services, organisations and SEND activities.
- Whole family working.
- Complete Preparation for Adulthood referrals.
- Explore whether court of protection (COP) or deprivation of liberty (DOL) is appropriate.
- Explore whether the child or young person would benefit from a Continuing Health Care referral.

Our support is not limited to the above.

How do we differ to Family Support Team?

- Direct Payment Only – when the only need of the family is for support around Direct Payments/ Short Break Support. Direct Payment Only families would sit with the SEND Family Support Team.
- Direct Payment Plus – when SEND is not the presenting need for the family in addition to Direct Payments/Short Break Support. Direct Payment Plus families sit within your Family Support Localities.
- We support families where the overarching needs is the child/young person's disability.
- We hold Direct Payment Only cases where we review packages of support every 12 months or 3 months for new packages of support commencing. This does not require a new referral Multi-Agency Request for Services (MARS) in.



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Parenting Team

Within Warrington we offer evidence-based parenting programmes which can form part of wider Early Help Support. The programmes are delivered across Warrington by skilled and experienced accredited facilitators. We deliver a wide menu of parenting programmes depending on the age of the children, family needs, circumstances and desired outcomes.

Parenting programmes aim to help parents provide the best possible environment in which their children can develop socially, emotionally and reach their full potential. They aim to promote well-being and resilience by supporting families to build good attachment in infancy and beyond and reduce the likelihood of problems arising, whilst improving overall parenting.

Our programmes typically range from 10 to 14 weeks and consist of a group session for 2 hours per week alongside home tasks where parent/carers can have a go at the strategies discussed that week.

Examples of current courses offered are:

Baby Incredible Years - suitable for parents with babies aged 0-12 months, however ideally aged 2-4 months at start of programme. Parents attend with their baby and focus on 6 topics: becoming a parent, babies as language learner, stimulation, reading baby's minds, gaining support and babies emerging sense of self.

The Incredible Years - suitable for parents of children aged 2-8 years. Adaptable strategies for all children but meets NICE guidelines for ADHD treatment, strategies also adaptable to support children with other neurodiversity needs. Focusing on supporting children to develop prosocial skills, emotional regulation skills, effective limit setting and managing difficult behaviours.

The Nurture Programme - suitable for parents of children aged 5-10 years focusing on children's behavioural and emotional difficulties self-awareness, empathy, appropriate expectations and positive discipline.

Parents Plus Adolescent Programme - suitable for parents of young people aged 11-16 years. Focusing on understanding teenage brain development, building and maintaining positive relationships with your teen, positive discipline strategies, drug, alcohol, sexual health and technology information.

After the parent/carer is referred into the service they will be contacted informing them of which programme would best suit them as a family. Due to the length of our programme, there is generally a termly wait for the next one to start.



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Reducing Parental Conflict

We understand that life can be a struggle, one day everything is going smoothly, the next everything is up in the air. Conflict between partners is part of that everyday struggle.

There are a lot of reasons why we argue with our partner. Whether it is something small or something major, this can influence our mood and behaviours, which impacts on the children. Even sulking and not speaking to each other can have a negative effect on the children.

Some level of arguing and conflict between parents is a normal part of everyday life. However, there is strong evidence to show how inter-parental conflict that is **frequent, intense and poorly resolved** can have a significant negative impact on children's mental health and long-term life chances.

Parental conflict (whether parents are together or separated) places children at risk of poor social, emotional, and educational outcomes.

Improvement can be achieved through early intervention.

Early intervention to support co-parenting couples to resolve conflict constructively has the greatest opportunity for successful outcomes.

The Early Help team have the knowledge and experience to work with families to help them to resolve their conflict, whether they are still together or separated.

There are workshops, programmes and even 1-1 interventions that can be delivered to local families.

- **Relationship toolkit interventions.**
- **Parenting co-operatively after separation programme**
- **Stronger together programme**
- **Healthy relationship workshops**
- **How conflict and abuse effects children and parenting styles session**

The Reducing Parental Conflict Co-ordinator is working closely with Warrington Council partners including our schools to train all staff around parental conflict and the effects it has on children, promoting a joined-up, co-ordinated response.



Domestic Abuse Hub

The Domestic Abuse (DA) Hub service is confidential and available to anyone across Warrington Borough Council. We work on a consent framework and only share information on a need-to-know basis.

The DA Hub support offer.

- Independent Domestic Violence Advocacy service (IDVA)
- Domestic Abuse Outreach Service
- Young Person Advocacy Service
- Child to Parent Abuse Service
- Multi-agency and Single agency training

The IDVA service support victims over the age of 16 and their families who are experiencing domestic abuse and have been assessed as high risk of serious harm and homicide and medium risk victims.

We provide support and advice on:

- Personal safety and developing bespoke safety plans
- Help in accessing legal advice and protective orders such as injunctions and non-molestation orders
- Attending courts and making police complaints
- Finding emergency accommodation and applying for and re-housing
- Support in accessing wider services

Within our team, we have IDVA's who specialise in a diverse range of need. We have a LGBTQ+ & Men's IDVA, IDVAs who are language specific (Polish and Urdu), IDVAs that have a thematic lead in Honour Based Abuse, Mental Health, Economic Abuse, elder abuse, and addiction.

The DA Outreach Service provides support and delivers DA group awareness programmes across the borough, to families living in our dispersed accommodation across Warrington, and those in sanctuary accommodation.

The Young Persons Advocacy Service support young people from the age of 11- 17 at all risk levels, providing emotional and practical support to young people who are either experiencing abuse from their own intimate relationship or impacted by parental/family abuse.

The Child to Parent Abuse service is a new service offer that will deliver support to parents/carers/guardians experiencing abuse by their children or those whom they have a caring responsibility towards. It will also deliver 1:1 support and group support to young people who are using harmful behaviours and encourage them to adopt healthy behaviours.

The DA Hub co-delivers the monthly DA Basic awareness training for Warrington Safeguarding Partnership and provides training to single agencies in completing the National Domestic Abuse Stalking and Harassment risk assessment tool known as DASH and provide support and guidance to agencies in developing DA pathways.

The Hub accepts self-referrals, agencies referring into the Hub are required to complete a referral form and a DASH.

For general enquiries, please email: IDVA@warrington.gov.uk



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Youth Service

Youth work is a distinct informal educational process using Personal, Social and Emotional learning and provides a safe space for young people to learn about themselves and how they fit into the world. This strength-based support enables young people to explore their values, beliefs and ideas and helps them to develop their voice and place in society. This is achieved through providing opportunities for young people to develop and learn new skills, knowledge and attitudes so that they can make informed decisions.

Our Targeted Youth Work Offer supports young people to do this through:

- **Being heard**
- **Being healthy**
- **Staying safe**

Service delivery and offer

MYP (Member of Youth Parliament supported by the Government and led by the British Youth Council)

IMPACT Group - Warrington's Youth Council that links into Regional and National Networks.

Detached Youth work offer – street-based work, youth workers on foot, bike or mobile youth base working with young people, spaces and places of concern.

EMPOWER Group - Black, Asian and Ethnic Minority support group

TAGS (17-25) - Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transsexual and Questioning support group

Youth TAGS (11-16) - Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transsexual and Questioning support group

Wednesdays at The Youth Hub – safe space for local young people (universal offer)

ROAR – young women at risk of exploitation support group

COMPASS – young men at risk of exploitation support group

Warrington's Young Persons Drug and Alcohol Service (see page below)

Public Health Risky Behaviour Programme – PSHE workshops to all secondary schools around Public Health agenda and Schools identified need.

Friday Night Accident and Emergency – responsive service to support drug and alcohol related admissions.

Elevate Group and Programme - aims to promote positive wellbeing for young people who are experiencing low self-esteem.

One to one targeted support – focusing on being heard, being healthy and being safe.

Whole Family Working – when a young person identifies this in their assessment.



Young Persons

Drug & Alcohol Team

The Young Persons Drug and Alcohol team provides a confidential specialist 'Tier 3' substance misuse service for young people aged 11 to 19 years, aimed at preventing and reducing harm caused by substance misuse to themselves, their families, and the communities in which they live.

The service delivers psychological based 'Treatment' interventions through individual or group sessions which supports young people to engage a better understanding of substance misuse, develop alternative methods of coping and encourages them to make changes to their substance use.

The interventions enable the young person/people,

- to recognise behavioural issues and encourage positive voluntary consensual change.
- to support emotional change and the enhancement of social, coping and resilience skills.
- to 'Safety Plan' so they can identify risk, know how to manage risk and know where to get support.
- to contribute to removing barriers to the young person's life for example academic, vocational progress and aspirations.
- to consider and be responsive to needs based on gender, ability, ethnicity, sexuality, in relation to the nature of the presenting issues.
- to identify other needs so that referrals can be made to appropriate services.
- to support access to specialist treatment outside the parameters of 'Tier 3' by working with our local adult provider CGL for example injecting, detoxification and inpatient care.
- to support a smooth transition over to adult services when they turn 18.

By providing the above interventions we aim to reduce drug related harm, encourage abstinence, and discourage relapse.

To make a referral complete the [Multi-agency request for services \(MARS\) form](#) where you will be asked to complete a Drug and Alcohol Screening Tool.



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Restore Team

Restore is a targeted Early Help offer which provides an intense intervention programme of therapeutic, practical, and behavioural support through an integrated model for expectant parents.

The model works on the principle that we start working with expectant parents prior to 20 weeks gestation, where high risk of removal has been identified. Providing opportunities at the earliest point possible within the pregnancy allows enough time for the expectant parent to engage, be assessed and supported with identified needs.

Restore aims to support expectant parents at the earliest opportunity to encourage and sustain positive changes for the best outcomes for their unborn child.

What support parents receive?

- Expectations and impact of parenthood
- Impact of lifestyle on child development—theraplay, pre-natal bonding sessions
- Positive relationship work
- Future aspirations for self (and child)
- Contraception support
- Engagement with other support services to promote change.
- Understanding the Pre-Birth Assessment
- Family support accessible until the child's 5th birthday
- Advocacy
- Evidence based parenting programmes.

What are the criteria areas?

- Pregnancy pre 20 weeks gestation
- Children previously removed from parents' care
- Parents who haven't had a child removed from their care, where there are high risk indicators e.g. significant poor mental health, addiction, significant history of domestic abuse
- Fathers who may have had children removed from their care with previous partner and are now expecting a child with a new partner (who may or may not have had previous children removed).



Early Help Support Team

The Early Help Support Team is a central team within The Early Help Division that supports Warrington Borough Council staff and our partners in the Early Help Assessment journey.

The team is made up of Early Help Data officers, who will answer general telephone or email queries from families or partners and connect them to the right Early Help service.

We have a team of Partnership Link Workers (PLWs) who support partners with the Early Help process and paperwork such as Early Help Assessments, review documents and closures.

Some of our partners include – Schools, Health, Early Years settings and Housing.

The PLW does not case hold and will not directly work with the family, they will support and assist our partners with Early Help processes.

Examples of support offered by a PLW:

- Model whole family working to partners and direct them in methods to engage families, manage multiple and complex needs and support multi-agency coordinated support.
- Support partners in the continued implementation of the Early Help Assessment and supporting documents.
- Chair Team Around the Family (TAF) meetings and model the behaviours required so practitioners can then take on this role confidently and competently.
- Provide bespoke training for teams/settings on The Early Help Assessment Journey.
- Ensure that the child and family's voice and experience of services helps to inform any assessment, support and intervention relating to them or their family.
- Lead and support partners to embed systemic and trauma informed practice when working with families.
- Model family engagement methods to partners to ensure that the service is accessible and supportive to children, young people and families.
- Support partners to Identify, promote and provide high quality preventative services enabling children, young people and families to meet their potential and improve outcomes.
- Provide advice and guidance to partners to establish identified needs and signposting to appropriate services.



Safeguarding Children in Education Team (SCiE)

Our Safeguarding Children in Education Team is highly regarded by schools due to its dedication to providing timely and effective guidance, support and training. We provide advice in relation to safeguarding concerns and support to meet your statutory responsibilities. Our team will help to assist with safeguarding children within the Warrington area.

It is important that you contact the Multi-Agency Safeguarding Hub (MASH) and/or Police if you believe a child is at risk of harm or in danger. There may be times when you may require additional third-party advice that we can support with. In these instances please contact scie@warrington.gov.uk indicating if the matter is urgent or non-urgent. For urgent matters please provide both a landline and mobile phone number.

The Safeguarding Children in Education team offer an SLA to education providers and dependant on the level chosen we can offer:

- Specific advice and guidance on safeguarding and other matters
- An annual audit with key recommendations provided
- Representation at multi-agency meetings
- Monthly safeguarding scenarios
- Monthly One Minute Briefings
- Termly newsletter
- Annual conference and 2 network meetings per year
- Safeguarding training



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Play and Sensory Centre

Warrington Play and Sensory Centre is a purpose-built activity centre primarily for disabled children and adults or those with special needs, based in Woolston. There are also sessions available for all children despite if they have a disability.

Our facilities have been planned carefully and are fully accessible to ensure that your time with us is as enjoyable as possible.



The centre has a number of different areas where you can relax or play. Our facilities have been planned carefully and are fully accessible including an accessible disabled toilet with height adjustable changing bed and hoist. Large soft play structure with a fun sea theme. Highlights include the large soft slide, dizzy disc and ball pool. More room than usual in the structure to allow parents/carers to provide support to users as they make their way round. A low-level soft play area which include a low-level trampet, swing, building den area and interactivity. A calm sensory environment, which includes waterbed, bubble tube, fibre optic curtain, interactive light panel, ball pool and light projection. An overhead hoist is available.

Centre staff team have a knowledge of information and resources to point you in the right direction alongside Early Help SEND Family Support Team being based at the centre. Enjoy your stay with a snack, hot food and hot or cold drink in our café area.

To make sure everyone gets the most fun out of their visit we offer separate sessions for different age groups. Sessions are also available for groups, schools and parties. Our opening times do vary. Up to date information on planning your visit, session times, prices and membership is available on our website. Find the session that suits you and book via session bookings.

Web page

[Warrington Play and Sensory Centre | warrington.gov.uk](http://warrington.gov.uk)

Facebook

[Warrington Play & Sensory Centre](https://www.facebook.com/WarringtonPlayandSensoryCentre)

Email

sensorycentre@warrington.gov.uk



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National Programmes

The Early Help Division continues to lead on 3 National programmes that support and compliment the work with children, young people and families across Warrington. The connectivity in the below 3 programmes are crucial in getting better outcomes at the earliest opportunity for all children and families.

Supporting Families Programme

Supporting Families programme launched in March 2021 and builds on the previous Troubled Families programme, it is currently managed by the Department of Levelling up, Housing and Communities (DLUHC). As set out in '[Supporting Families 2021 to 2022 and beyond](#)', its focus is on building the resilience of vulnerable families, and on driving system change so that every area has joined up, efficient local services which are able to identify families in need and provide the right support at the right time. Supporting Families is committed to strong multi-agency local partnerships in every area with mature local and national data systems. This means investing more in good practice, overcoming barriers to data-sharing, and involving the voice of families in service design and commissioning. Since 2015, over 470,000 vulnerable families have received direct support through Supporting Families to build a brighter future and the positive ripple effect of that has been much larger with over a million families having benefitted from the programme's 'whole family' approach. There is also evidence which shows that the programme reduces the number of children who need to be taken into care. The Supporting Families programme aims build on this success and to find ways to support families in need of help, especially as they recover from the impact of Covid-19 and inconsideration the government's commitment to levelling up across the country.

Best Start for Life

The Family Hubs and Start for Life programme helps meet commitments in [The best start for life: a vision for the 1,001 critical days](#), published as government policy in March 2021. This programme is jointly led by the Department for Education (DfE) and Department of Health and Social Care (DHSC). The programme will also support the creation of a network of family hubs. [The Family Hubs and Start for Life programme guide](#). The programme's objective is to join up and enhance services delivered through transformed family hubs in local authority areas, ensuring all parents and carers can access the support they need when they need it.

The programme will:

- provide support to parents and carers so they are able to nurture their babies and children, improving health and education outcomes for all.
- contribute to a reduction in inequalities in health and education outcomes for babies, children and families across England by ensuring that support provided is communicated to all parents and carers, including those who are hardest to reach and/or most in need of it.
- build the evidence base for what works when it comes to improving health and education outcomes for babies, children, and families in different delivery contexts



National Programmes

Holiday Activity and Food (HAF) Programme

Research has shown that the school holidays can be pressure points for some families. For some children this can lead to a holiday experience gap, with children from low-income households being less likely to access organised out-of-school activities and more likely to experience 'unhealthy holidays' in terms of nutrition and physical health. The government's Holiday Activities and Food (HAF) programme is a response to this issue, with evidence showing that free holiday clubs can have a positive impact on children and young people. HAF gives school aged children, who are eligible for benefit related free school meals, the opportunity to take part in fun, enriching holiday activities and to receive a nutritious meal. A small proportion of the funding can also be used to offer places to other vulnerable children not eligible for free school meals. The programme operates in the Easter, Summer, and Christmas school holidays.

Each HAF funded activity includes the following:

- A nutritious meal
- At least 60 minutes of physical activity
- Engaging and enriching activities
- Developing knowledge of health and nutrition
- Signposting for families to wider services and support in the area, for example health, employment, and education



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How to refer to Early Help Services

For more information see the links below or call us on 01925 443136.

If you would like to make a referral to any of the services detailed in this leaflet you will be required to complete a [Multi-agency request for services \(MARS\) form](#)

You can refer as a family member or a professional on behalf of a family.

All referrals must have written or verbal consent. This consent will be used to share information about children, young people and family members in order to establish how best to meet the family's needs. All information will be kept in line with the Data Protection Act 1998. Further information can be found at:

<https://www.warrington.gov.uk/data-protection-policy>

Obtaining and sharing information with other agencies, professionals and partners is an important part of the assessment process as it gives a fuller picture of the child's, young person's and family's circumstances and needs. In addition, other professionals may be able to offer services and support.

We may also share information to assess whether our services are working effectively and to improve our services for the future.

More information can also be found by following the [Early Help and SEND Warrington Warrington Children's Centres](#) & [Warrington Early Years](#) Facebook pages.



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