

**6** Quality play and early learning experiences provided by children's workers, childminders, daycare settings and schools; all supported by a teacher. This includes funded early years education, for all three and four year olds for 12 ½ hours per week.



"Alicia has more confidence and has come along very good with her social skills."



**7** Opportunities to volunteer and be part of the management, planning and evaluation of Children's Centres and have a say about local services.

"I see my volunteering as a help towards getting full-time work when my youngest goes to school."



**8** Links with Job Centre Plus if you are considering new opportunities in employment or training, or need benefits advice.

**9** All our services aim to be inclusive for children and parents with additional needs, linking with specialist services and early support. Please come and talk to us, or speak to your midwife or health visitor; they will be able to contact us on your behalf.

Children's Centres are committed to working in partnership with local childminders and signpost parents/carers to information about becoming a registered childminder or accessing their services.



For more information about services in your area or to find out where your nearest centre or information point can be found, call Nottinghamshire Families Information Service on freephone 0800 781 2168.



#### Contacting us

Phone: 0800 781 2168

Email: [fis@nottscc.gov.uk](mailto:fis@nottscc.gov.uk)

Web: [www.nottinghamshire.gov.uk](http://www.nottinghamshire.gov.uk)

Post: Children and Young People's Department, Families Information Service, Welbeck House, Darwin Drive, Sherwood Energy Village, Ollerton, Notts. NG22 9FF

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## A guide to Sure Start Children's Centre services

The government's aim is to have Sure Start Children's Centre services in every community by 2010 to give every child the best start in life.

Baby massage group



Safe, happy, healthy and ready to learn – every family matters

**Children's Centres and the services offered are child-centred and child-friendly. Services are being developed throughout the county with our partner agencies to advise and support all families expecting babies or with children under 5.**

Nottinghamshire County Council work closely with Family Action, Notts Community Health and North Notts College to provide better joined up services for families where they need them within their communities.

Children's Centres also work with Job Centre Plus, the National Childminding Association (NCMA), National Day Nurseries Association (NDNA), Pre-school Learning Alliance (PLA), local schools, Home-Start, NHS, Speech and Language Therapy, voluntary organisations and many more to provide services for young children and families in their own communities.

Information, activities and services in Nottinghamshire will be provided through a range of community venues, such as your local Children's Centre or

information point. We would like every child and their family to have:

**1 Information about local services for children, young people and their families, including childcare and the help available to pay for it.**

"Its really good to have somewhere you can go to find out about what's happening where you live".



"Its great to give something back to the Children's Centre by being part of the forum and having something just for me!"

**2 Training opportunities for parents/carers delivered by local colleges and other training providers.**



"Over time I have completed Paediatric First Aid, Literacy and Numeracy level 1, Computer Literacy level 1 and ITQ2 (Information Technology). I also volunteered at Sure Start in the office which supported my ITQ course.

Sure Start staff have helped me so much – without them I'm not sure I would have had the confidence to try. I have always put myself down, thinking I was

a nobody with nothing to give but now I know that if you have a goal – go for it!

My next plan is to take some time off over Christmas with my girls then go back to college part time before looking for a job. I want to wait until my children are a little bit older because although I have plans for the future, my girls always come first."

**3 If needed tailored packages of family support are available through your Children's Centre.**



**4 A fun, safe place for children to play and develop, and a place for families to talk to each other. This could be in a centre, community venue or local toddler group.**

"I started to come down to the centre because it gives me time to meet other mums and have a chat and my son to play with other children and interact with the games that they play."

**5 A chance for all parents, including fathers and young parents to get health and parenting advice from midwives, health visitors, family support workers and many more.**



"Coming to the centre has made a large difference to my family. The Saturdays we come here are now 'Daddy Days' that me and my daughter both look forward to and enjoy."



"It has made me and my children a lot closer and I feel that it has also made my family understand children's behaviour properly. I also feel it has helped my family cope with post natal depression and has learnt my children to bond and play with others."

