



Birmingham Forward Steps e-bulletin



9th April 2018

Welcome to issue 8

Service Update

BFI Assessment

The Birmingham Forward Steps Early Years' Service is scheduled to complete the BFI accreditation process in May 2019. This involves a rigorous inspection process wherein staff and parents will be interviewed to ensure that mums and babies are receiving evidence based support and information in relation to Infant Feeding / Breast feeding, in line with Baby Friendly Standards .

Baby Friendly have been made aware of the current climate and significant organisational changes within the service and have agreed a delay in the accreditation process until May 2019. Due to the uniqueness and size of the integrated service in Birmingham (BFS) they have advised us to undertake

base line audits (staff, parents and environment). Completing these audits as soon as possible will enable us to establish a plan to support meeting the required deadlines. I'm sure you all appreciate the size and scope of ensuring we are ready for May 2019.

Due to the various consultation processes across Health Visiting and Early Years' Service we need to proceed with baseline auditing as a priority.

The Infant Feeding team will focus on those children's centres/Districts for which the infant feeding workers are currently in place with a view to roll out in May. The team are available to contact directly if you have any queries, concerns or need any further advise / information about the audits or Infant Feeding in general,

In addition please do not hesitate to contact Sandra Thompson-Smith, Operational Manger for Health Visiting and Infant Feeding

Working together to ensure that mums and Babies in Birmingham have the best opportunities and life chances

Partnership Board

A variety of stakeholders from Birmingham City Council, maternity and Paediatrics joined the EY Senior management team at the first Partnership Board Meeting on 27th March. Going forward, Partnership Board will be held monthly, offering external stakeholders an opportunity to provide feedback on the EY service and offer suggestions for collaborative working practices.... More updates to follow.

Baby Club Pilot Update

We are happy to confirm that first Baby Club pilot will commence on 18th April, at Sparkbrook Children's Centre on 18th April. Pilot roll out for the Greet Team is to follow shortly after this, but an exact date is still to be confirmed.

Integrated Allocation Meetings - Update

Work is taking place to prepare for the Integrated Allocation Meeting pilot. Initial trials are due to take place in Erdington and Perry Barr. Further details to follow.

Positive News

Parent Volunteer

A parent has recently shown interest in volunteering as part of the Startwell and Healthy Kitchen programmes. The parent has been put in touch with their local children's centre and is due to commence volunteering shortly.

Upcoming Events

1. **Stakeholder Event – 19th April** - Tally Ho – This will be hosted by the BFS partnership for external stakeholders to provide an update on the Birmingham Forward Steps Service.



We want to hear from you! Please send positive stories, comments requests and queries to earlyyears@bhamcommunity.nhs.uk