



Birmingham Forward Steps e-bulletin



12th March 2018

Welcome to issue 7:

Service Vision: *'To give every child in Birmingham an equal chance to have the best start in life so they can achieve their full potential'*

Baby Club Pilot

We are currently finalising the arrangements for the first baby pilots and hope to commence at Sparkbrook Children's Centre on 18th April with identified Health Visiting support to work with the Early Years workers to support their competency development..... Further information to follow.

Rio Go-Live

VPN token issues that are being experienced by Children's Centre staff have been escalated to IT who are currently working towards a solution.... Further details will be communicated when available. We hope to have this issue resolved imminently.

Birmingham Forward Steps in 2018 – the next steps to delivering the new service

There has been a huge amount of hard work in getting BFS to this point – thank you to everyone for getting us here.

The focus now is to develop how we work as a service to ensure we can deliver the **care and support to 100% of families** that need it going forwards. Following the current mobilisation work to setup the service, we will be looking at new ways for our teams to work together across Health Visiting and the integration with Children's Centres.

This transformation work throughout 2018 will make sure that **every family has access** to the right services, and that we deliver these services with the **right person**, in the **right place**, and at the **right time**.

We need **your help** to decide **how** to do this, and over the coming months there will be many opportunities to shape the changes, so please keep an eye out for further news.

Starting after Easter, we will have a small team from Newton, BCHC's transformation partner, supporting us in making these changes so that there is minimum disruption to the teams.

We have got a challenging and exciting year ahead of us. We look forward to everyone getting involved and sharing their thoughts and ideas to support this transformation.

Home-Start

As you may be aware Home-Start is one of our City Wide providers. Can you please invite Home Start to allocation meetings to support their work and allocation of families for their support. This will assist in ensuring early support for families.

Childcare Plus (formally Corporate Childcare) - REMINDER

The way you access Corporate Childcare Funding has changed. From **Thursday 1st March**. The new service, Birmingham Forward Steps, will be managing the childcare funding at a **District Level**.

The level of funding available for childcare places has been substantially reduced and has been assigned to districts based on levels of deprivation.

The criteria for allocation of the funding has changed. Funding is now allocated against the following three criteria:

- Children for whom there are concerns about their physical and emotional wellbeing as a result of the care they receive or the environment in which they live
- Children whose behaviour and/or development give serious cause for concern
- Attendance at Children's Centre is part of a family support plan/package of support.

If you feel the needs of the family match the criteria please submit a [Referral Form](#). You are encouraged to contact the appropriate Children's Centre Hub before you submit a referral. Referrals will be taken to a weekly Integrated Allocation Meeting to be considered and you will be notified of the outcome and next steps.

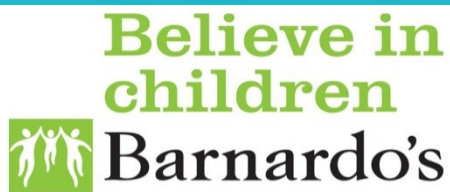
Integrated Allocation Pilot

This is a really exciting time where we are designing in detail the new integrated Birmingham Forward Steps service. We plan to roll out integrated allocation incrementally, starting with a pilot in the Northfield, Erdington and Perry Barr Districts during April. We have invited members of the teams to participate in a planning and design workshop on 15th March 2018.... Update to follow in the next newsletter.

Upcoming Events

- 1. Allocation Pilot – April 2018 –Planning Workshop for** Northfield, Erdington and Perry Barr Districts.
- 2. Family Support and Vulnerability Pathway – Workshop 22nd March 2018 –** Invitations to this event have been sent... further update in next newsletter.
- 3. 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.



St. Paul's Community Development Trust



Working for the Community



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