



Birmingham Forward Steps e-bulletin



2 July 2018

Welcome to issue 13

Service Update

Birmingham Forward Steps Staff Update

The BFS Staff Update took place on 20th June at the Saffron Centre, and provided the opportunity to update our staff. This was a very productive event and thank you to all the staff who contributed to the day. The presentation from the event will be distributed to all staff.

National Breastfeeding Week 25-29 June 2018

England's National Breastfeeding Celebration Week, run by Public Health England (PHE), takes place 25 – 29 June. The week focuses on celebrating the benefits of breastfeeding and promoting the role that all healthcare professionals, commissioners and managers have in advising and supporting mothers to take up and continue breastfeeding for at least the first 6 months of their baby's life. The week looks at the evidence that exists, showing breastfeeding's wide and positive impact on a baby's development, from strengthening immunity and providing nutritional value to emotional bonding and building mental resilience.

Blogs, tweets and social media for this event are requested to use #CelebrateBreastfeeding, to create a social movement which embraces breastfeeding!

The Infant Feeding Team for BCHCFT met with Richard Kirby (BCHC Chief Executive Officer) to #CelebrateBreastfeeding and as part of our joint commitment to



improving infant feeding practices across Birmingham, in line with the UNICEF UK Baby Friendly Initiative. They will also be meeting with the new Antenatal Infant Feeding Workers from the 10 districts to deliver their training and inspire them in their new roles.

PHE published a number of blogs during the week, which can be found at: <https://vivbenett.blog.gov.uk>

Unicef Uk Baby Friendly Initiative are also raising awareness of the importance of supporting breastfeeding at https://youtu.be/7yNvkk_LfpU

CQC and OFSTED/CQC SEND Inspections

A big thank you to all staff for your hard work and commitment during the recent inspections. Within a recent communication Richard Kirby, Chief Executive Officer, mentioned how impressed the inspectors were with our teams' openness, honesty and cooperation during this time.

Thank you for your on-going support in taking action in response to any issues that may have arisen.

As some of you may be aware, we have also participated in a SEND inspection. Thank you to those teams who have met with the inspection team. We are currently awaiting feedback from this.

Good News Stories: Four Oaks Toy Library

Four Oaks Toy Library, which is a service staffed by Sutton District Children's Centre, held a 10th Birthday party last week to celebrate 10 years of offering play, learning and support to families of under 5s. The service runs in St James Church Centre, Mere Green which is a community outreach venue.

Local Mum, Angela, whose children are now teenagers, remembers the Toy Library as a place that supported both home learning and school readiness. **" borrowing was brilliant and walking distance made all the difference! I was living in a maisonette at the time and could not buy or store big toys. The group fitted the gap between stay and play for babies and going to nursery and school."**

Upcoming Events

Birmingham Forward Steps Official Launch Event – 25 July

Final preparations are being made for the official Launch of the new Birmingham Forward Steps service on July 25th (11.00am-3.00pm) at the Midlands Arts Centre (MAC) in Edgbaston.

Working together to give every child in Birmingham an equal chance to have the best start in life so they can achieve their full potential'



St. Paul's Community
Development Trust



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