Supporting families and making sure young children have the best start in life
We aim to improve opportunities for Reading families with easy access to education, health, maternity and support services.

**What do we offer?**

We offer a wide range of services for children under five and their families, to support child development and adult learning.

- **Child and family health services** - Community midwives, health visiting teams, under one-year-olds baby groups and health clinics, nine-month-old and two-year-old health reviews, breastfeeding support and infant feeding.

- **A friendly place to play and learn** - Free crèche facilities, childcare settings (at selected hubs), library service (at selected hubs), education sessions and opportunities, preparing children for going to school.

We really can help:

'I am thankful to you and your team as I get real help and support in my most difficult time of life. You give me such comfort and confidence that I did not worry to share my feelings, problems and discuss possible solutions with you, with my full trust in you. I really feel supported by all you do with me. Thank you.'

From one of our families
• **Access to family friendly support services** - SEND support, speech and language drop-ins, family learning groups with New Directions College, two-year-old funding support, benefit checks, various parenting courses and workshops including, breast feeding, weaning, potty training, home safety advice, sleep, child behaviour and routines, ditch the dummy, healthy eating and mental health support, and signposting and support to access more specific services.

• **A journey to employment - support with work or training** - Back to work advice and support, adult learning with New Directions College education tutors and various parenting courses and workshops.

• **Community volunteer opportunities** - Become a volunteer in the community, find out about various opportunities and groups such as Home-Start and Dads Clubs.

• **Meet other families and carers** - A safe place to socialise in your community, community cafes (at selected hubs), bespoke groups for local communities, summer and other seasonal / festive activities.
Where are we located?

There are four Children’s Centre hubs in Reading, situated in the heart of our communities in East, West Central, South and West Reading.

How are we set up and who works from the hubs?

All our hubs are friendly, warm and welcoming and full of wonderful resources to support you and your child. Each hub houses a Children Centre Team including family group workers and children centre family workers.

The family group workers provide services for children aged up to one year and targeted groups for children up to the age of five. They:

• plan sessions and groups for you to access, in line with the Early Years Foundation Stage Curriculum (EYFS) and our family English, Maths and Literacy objectives
• help you access the right support from other agencies, such as education and health
• tailor support to meet you and your family’s individual needs
• provide a high-quality, Ofsted-registered crèche, enabling parents/carers to undertake adult learning and life skills.
The children centre family workers provide help, guidance and support and they:

- work closely with families and the community to achieve positive change for children in Reading
- work with families stepping down from children’s social care
- offer you weekly home visits and carry out bespoke support plans to meet any identified needs
- offer support liaising with housing professionals or schools.
How can you access this service?

To make it as easy as possible for you, we have one point of contact for all enquiries:

**reading.childrencentres@brighterfuturesforchildren.org**

You can see all our activities and our most up-to-date programme on our [Facebook page](https://brighterfuturesforchildren.org/services/under-5s/children-centre-services/) or on our website ([https://brighterfuturesforchildren.org/services/under-5s/children-centre-services/](https://brighterfuturesforchildren.org/services/under-5s/children-centre-services/))
Accessing Children’s Centre Family Worker Support

If you require our service for 1-1 family support, or wish to refer a child/family for support please follow the below instructions to make a referral:

Complete this web form: [https://brighterfuturesforchildren.org/concerned-about-a-child/](https://brighterfuturesforchildren.org/concerned-about-a-child/)

Call: 0118 937 3641

Or email: cspoa@brighterfuturesforchildren.org

Children’s Single Point of Access (CSPoA) may contact you for further information following your referral and will notify you of the outcome of your referral within two working days.