

# Family Hubs Transformation Update

January 2024

## Happy New Year

As we start 2024, we have been reflecting on all the progress in the development of the Family Hubs so far, as well as planning our next steps.

Some of the key achievements of the transformation in 2023 include:

- Engaged with **33** VCS partners at our engagement event, and over **25** in one-to-one meetings
- **50** in-house training sessions delivered on **27** different topics.
- Two family fun events attended by **436** families
- **23** targeted focus groups and engagement activities attended by **138** children, young people and families

## What we've been doing

### Engaging with LGBTQ families

At the end of last year, we worked with Allsorts Youth Project to engage with LGBTQ families about how Family Hubs can be more LGBTQ inclusive. Parents and carers shared a lot of important suggestions, such as the importance of visual signs to show that they will be supported, the need for staff to be trained to support LGBTQ families and exploring groups and support specifically tailored for LGBTQ families. We will be sharing their recommendations with our Family Hubs teams and looking at how we can embed them into our practice. A big thank you to Allsorts, and the parents and carers who took part in this.



## Get involved

### Ideas Factory

Parents, carers and families are at the heart of Family Hubs, and we want to make sure that their ideas shape our services and projects. We have launched the Ideas Factory as a simple way for families to share their ideas for small projects that we could run in the Family Hubs. This could include things such as a gardening group, cooking workshops or table tennis facilities. Please could you help us to gather ideas, by sharing this link with the families in your network. We have also attached an image to this email that you can share on social media.

➔ [www.smartsurvey.co.uk/s/Family\\_hubs\\_Idea\\_factory/](http://www.smartsurvey.co.uk/s/Family_hubs_Idea_factory/)

## Family Voice focus groups

We will be setting up regular family participation groups, to enable parents and carers to share their thoughts and opinions and have a say in how Family Hubs run. We will be holding focus groups in February to co-design these participation groups and what they will look like. Participants will receive a £10 voucher to thank them for their time.

- Hangleton: 6 February at 10 am
- Turner: 13 February at 7 pm
- Moulsecoomb: 20 February at 10 am
- Whitehawk: 27 February at 2 pm

Please can you help us get the word out by sharing the invitation (attached to this email) on social media and with the parents and carers in your networks. Please email [bhfamilyhubs@brighton-hove.gov.uk](mailto:bhfamilyhubs@brighton-hove.gov.uk) for more details.

## Focus month: Parenting and parental relationships

Our next focus month will be on parenting and parental relationships, and we will be hosting a series of free learning sessions for our teams and our partners in health and VCS.

Sessions include: Introduction to Family Hubs parental support offer; Supporting parents with family anxiety, Practical tips for how to support parents in conflict, and Introduction to Triple P parenting interventions.

More information and Teams links for the sessions are provided on the attached document, please email [eleanor.stewart@brighton-hove.gov.uk](mailto:eleanor.stewart@brighton-hove.gov.uk) for more information.

## Transformation timeline

The Department for Education has offered all 12 local authorities receiving Family Hubs transformation funding a 6-month extension to complete the planned work. This means the final deadline for completion of the transformation work will move from March 2024 to September 2024. We intend to complete the majority of transformation work by the original deadline of March 2024, but this extension enables us to focus on embedding the work undertaken so far, and continue work in certain key areas, such as digital development.

Half of the Transformation Team will complete their contracts as planned at the end of March. Eleanor Stewart (Workforce Development), Anshul Chaudhary (Business Analyst) and Meg Lewis (Communications and Engagement) will be leaving the team in March. From April, Stephen Woodward (Programme Manager), Ying Fu (Business Support) and Ilona Witczak (Data and Digital) will continue to support the important next stages of the transformation programme.

## Quick links

Make a referral to Family Hubs: [Front Door for Families](#)

Find out more: [Family Hubs webpage](#)

Background information: [Briefing for professionals](#)

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