

Open Letter to all users of Childrens Centres in Norfolk

Norfolk County Council is launching a new Early Childhood and Family Service for families with children aged 0-5. The new service will be up and running by October this year. We are currently selecting the organisation to run the new service and will announce who this will be in April.

The new service will provide:

1. Targeted support for families with children aged 0-5
2. Offer help so that all families can access local support and universal early childhood activities
3. Operate from 15 early childhood and family bases & use a large range of local venues e.g. community centres, village halls etc.
4. Contribute to joint working and maintaining partnerships to secure a district wide early childhood offer

In addition, we are enhancing the current online and digital information, advice and guidance offer for families.

This means that some of the services you currently receive through your children's centre may be changing as we work with district councils and partners locally to offer improved services for families. These changes will not happen immediately, and we will keep you informed so that you know when any changes will happen.

We expect the new Early Childhood and Family Service will be reaching families in lots of different locations, such as family homes, libraries, community centres, village halls and many of the buildings currently used as children's centres.

Village Green will be de-designated as a childrens centre. Some services may continue to operate from the building, and we are working with organisations who currently use the site to ensure that services to families with children aged 0-5 still operate within the local area

CHILDCARE - Childcare is run separately from the children's centre service. We are working with childcare providers to minimise any disruption to the childcare on the site while these changes take place. Access to high quality childcare remains a high priority. If you receive childcare at this children's centre and would like further information, please contact your childcare provider.

Between now and October 2019

- The County Council is working with current and future service providers to develop and deliver a high quality early childhood and family service for families with children 0-5
- We will continue to work together with service partners and users to enable a smooth handover, minimising any disruption to services during this transitional period

During the transition period the staff at Village Green Children's Centre will continue to support you, including with any queries you have, or if you would like further information.