

# Sure Start Children's Centres, Extended Schools and Parenting Update

## Edition 5 | Autumn 2008

### Sure Start Children's Centres

#### 1. Central staffing

The following staff are now in post:

Sam Haynes, Financial Services Officer supports the centres in setting up and maintaining their financial processes and budget monitoring.

Carla Sandercock, Communications Officer offers advice and guidance to centres in setting up their branding and marketing activities as well as looking at how Children's Centre Services (CCS) can develop internal and external communications to promote the work of children's centres across the county.

Katie Cunningham offers additional administrative support and Jeremy Halton, Information Analyst, and Heather Zawada, Data Collection Officer are working towards streamlining our data handling processes.

Richard Vaughan is Acting Children's Centres Project Manager, following Colin Payne's move to the role of Data and Information Manager within the Children's Services Department. Richard retains some responsibilities from his current post within CCS (Project Manager).

Samantha Severe joins the team as a Quality and Performance Officer (QPO) for Winchester and Test Valley. The role of the QPO is to monitor and support children's centres in achieving quality in their services. Each QPO also takes the lead in a key area of work and should be contacted direct with any queries relating to these areas. The five QPOs cover the county as follows:

Name	Area served	Lead area	Contact
Kerry Longhorn	Basingstoke and Deane, and Hart	Parenting support	kerry.longhorn@hants.gov.uk
Debra Cusack	North East Hampshire and Rushmoor	Child poverty and employment	debra.cusack@hants.gov.uk
Belinda Ludlam	South East Hampshire	Health	belinda.ludlum@hants.gov.uk
Sally Taylor	Eastleigh and New Forest	SEN and disabilities	sally.taylor@hants.gov.uk
Samantha Severe	Winchester and Test Valley	Health and safety, and safeguarding	samantha.severe@hants.gov.uk

#### 2. Recruitment – Children's centre staff

Two new managers have been appointed since August 2008.

Name	Children's Centre	Area: Wards
Kim McCann	Hayling Island Children's Centre	Havant: Hayling West, Hayling East
Ben Calder	Links Children's Centre	Havant: Hart Plain, Cowplain

Interviews currently taking place include:

Post	Children's Centre	Area
Centre Co-ordinator	Orchard Children's Centre (twinned with Sharps Copse)	Havant
Centre Co-ordinator	Westside Children's Centre	Basingstoke
Administration, Finance and Family Support Outreach Worker posts		Basingstoke

### 3. Family Support Outreach Workers

As part of their core business, children's centres provide a wide range of family support services including home visiting, parenting courses, support groups, adult education and employment support.

Formal and informal services must be balanced to meet the needs of all families and centres need to offer a service that is both universal and targeted. This can only be achieved through effective multi-agency working with key services and partners to ensure early contact with families who may need additional support. The role of Family Support Outreach Worker (FSOW) within children's centres is to develop this interagency service delivery from each centre.

At least one FSOW will work alongside existing services within their centre's notional catchment area. The role will develop over time and with evolving parenting and family support services, many exciting opportunities exist to develop a truly integrated local level approach to supporting families.

A working group has been set up to develop a toolkit for FSOWs to ensure that the induction and professional support needed to fulfil these roles is established at an early stage. Consultation with colleagues from different departments and agencies to develop joint working protocols in supporting families is also a key objective of this project. The toolkit will be available to centres in early 2009.

### 4. Capital programme

Of the 37 separate phase 2 children's centre construction projects, 22 have now been completed, a further 6 are expected to complete before Christmas and the remainder in Spring 2009. Use of modular off-site construction to a bespoke 'Hampshire' design has enabled 16 of the projects to be delivered with a reduced construction period on-site, achieving a high quality building and environment.

Work is also progressing on the site selection process for the phase 3 centres, with a shortlist of potential locations established for each notional catchment area. These are now being investigated further, with feasibility studies, to finalise the proposed locations ready for approval.

### 5. Phase 3 notional catchment areas

The Executive Lead Member for Children's Services (Education) granted final approval of the phase 3 strategy and Hampshire will have a further 25 children's centres. This means that by 31 March 2010 there will be 85 children's centres offering services to 100% of Hampshire's children under 5 years old. Hampshire County Council is undertaking an open tender process for the service delivery of phase 3 children's centres. Expressions of interest have been received and invitation to tender packs have gone out.

The notional catchment areas that will be served by a phase 3 children's centre are:

No.	Area
1	Burghclere; Kingsclere; East Woodhay; parts of Highclere and Bourne
2	Tadley North; Tadley South; Baughurst; Pamber; parts of Calleva
3	Chineham; parts of Sherbourne St John; parts of Calleva
4	Basing
5	Hatch Warren and Beggarwood; parts of Upton Grey and The Candovers
6	Oakley and North Waltham; Whitchurch and Overton; Laverstoke and Steventon; parts of Highclere and Bourne
7	Selbourne; Downland and Binsted; Bentley
8	Ropley and Tisted; Four Marks and Medstead; The Alresfords and Cheriton; Bishops Sutton
9	Hiltingbury East; Hiltingbury West; Compton and Otterbourne; parts of Valley Park
10	Hedge End St John's; Botley
11	Hedge End Grange Park; Hedge End Wildern
12	Park Gate; Sarisbury; parts of Warsash
13	Eversley; Yateley North; Yateley West; parts of Yateley East; parts of Blackwater and Hawley
14	Frogmore and Darby Green; parts of Blackwater and Hawley; parts of Yateley East
15	Hook; Hartley Whitney; parts of Odiham
16	Fleet North
17	Fleet West; Fleet Central; Fleet Pondtail
18	Fleet Courtmoor; Church Crookham East; Church Crookham West; Crondall
19	Long Sutton; parts of Odiham; parts of Upton Grey and The Candovers
20	St Mark's; Knellwood; parts of Fleet North
21	Amport; Anna; Bourne Valley; Harewood; Penton Bellinger
22	Dun Valley; King Sombourne and Michelmersh; Over Wallop and Broughton; Stockbridge
23	Kings Worthy; Wonston and Micheldever; Itchen Valley
24	Bishops Waltham; Owslebury and Curdridge; Colden Common
25	Denmead; Droxford; Soberton and Hambledon; Swanmore and Newton; Upper Meon Valley

## 6. Partnership working between health and children's centres

The children's centre team manager and QPOs have met health colleagues to plan and develop joint working protocols. The attendance list for health included representation from maternity services, health visiting, public health, GPs and commissioning.

It was a very positive and productive meeting with all present acknowledging the joint agenda and need for collaborative working, whilst also recognising current good practice that can be built on.

A group has been set up to consider specific areas of work, for example breastfeeding, post natal depression and ante

natal care, and to develop care pathways or protocols for each of these areas, identifying what each of our services is able to offer. Joint training was also identified as an opportunity for shared messages and understanding that will enhance collaborative work and integrated delivery of services for families.

This approach to developing partnership working has not been limited to health. There are similar developments taking place with Portage, Early Support, Locality Teams, Social Care and Jobcentre Plus. Many more are anticipated in the near future.

## Extended Schools

### 1. September 2008 core offer target met

Hampshire has met both 2008 primary and secondary government policy pledges (half of primary and a third of secondary schools delivering the full core offer). The extended services audit completed at the start of the Autumn term indicated that Hampshire reached its national delivery target of 55% of schools providing access to all five elements of the core offer. 292 schools were recorded as providing access to the full core offer – including 235 primary schools (55%) and 55 secondary schools (77%). The target for 2009 is for 85% (448) of schools. The audit showed that 83 of the remaining schools have just one element left to deliver. Compared to the national picture, Hampshire is progressing well with the varied menu element, whilst childcare and parenting support remain areas for development.

### 2. Extended services co-ordination

Contact details of all the current Extended School partnerships across Hampshire, their lead bodies and extended service co-ordinators are available by request from [sam.ward@hants.gov.uk](mailto:sam.ward@hants.gov.uk) or from the Extended Schools website.

### 3. School improvement planning framework

The Training and Development Agency (TDA) have launched the new edition of the school improvement planning framework (SIPF) in partnership with the National College for School Leadership (NCSL). The framework provides a useful toolkit to help schools develop extended services that deliver school improvement goals.

In September two extended service partnerships – Alton and Rushmoor – held successful workshops on using the toolkit to enhance their extended service planning with stakeholders.

The content and format of the new edition has been significantly refreshed, with new tools, improved how-to instructions and an accompanying DVD guide.

The leadership context is brought into focus, providing practical tools for monitoring and evaluating impact, and informing the school self-evaluation (SEF) process.

Go to [www.tda.gov.uk](http://www.tda.gov.uk) for more information and to order a copy. School clusters interested in participating in a tailored event in their area to use elements of the framework, should contact Sam Ward at [sam.ward@hants.gov.uk](mailto:sam.ward@hants.gov.uk).

### 4. A Safe Place to Be

The national 4Children organisation are working with Hampshire County Council through its extended services and early education and childcare sections to develop a 'Safe Place to Be' information pack for young people attending secondary school. The pack will include quality guidelines for out of school services, transport, inclusion and a framework for engaging young people. It will be piloted with selected schools during 2009 before publication and distribution to all secondary schools in Hampshire.

### 5. Funding support

In addition to the funding allocations provided to the 20 extended service partnerships, supporting co-ordination and capacity building, over 70 primary schools are being supported with pump priming capital funding this year to make improvements that will help the delivery of core offer services, and around 50 clusters were successful in their small grant bids to develop a range of innovative study support and family learning programmes.

From 2009 Hampshire will be able to participate in a new pathfinder programme that aims to provide extended schools subsidy funding for economically disadvantaged children and young people. In 2009 funding will be available to pilot a county scheme aimed at tackling financial barriers to participation in extended activities. If successful, additional funding will be made available from 2010/11 to offer targeted children up to two hours of group activity per week in term time, plus up to 30 hours additional activities during the holidays.



## Extended Schools continued

### 6. Quality and development

Recruitment is underway to appoint three area Quality and Development Officers to support the Education Officer (Extended Schools) in developing the Hampshire extended school strategy, implementing a quality development framework for extended service provision, promoting high quality provision through monitoring and supporting schools and service partnerships and advising schools on planning and developing quality extended service provision to ensure extended schools are on target to meet the core offer by 2010.

### 7. Hampshire school wins Extended School Award

Congratulations to Park Community School for winning 'The Extended School Award' category in the national Children and Young People's Services Awards 2008. The award was given in recognition of the extra-curricular activities that the school provides for its pupils, their families and the wider community. The judges commented that: "The school's services run through the community like a golden strand, not simply as a bolt on". This award remains in Hampshire after being awarded to the Romsey School in 2007.

## Parenting

### 1. Team update

The County Parent Support Team is now fully staffed. Role and contact details are:

Name	Role	E-mail
Volker Buck	County Parent Support Manager	volker.buck@hants.gov.uk
Nicky Jones	District Parent Support Officer - Basingstoke	nicky.jones@hants.gov.uk
Judy Turner	District Parent Support Officer - Winchester	judy.turner@hants.gov.uk
Barbara Cooke	District Parent Support Officer - Gosport	barbara.cooke@hants.gov.uk
Sharon Goodchild	District Parent Support Officer - East Hampshire, Hart and Rushmoor	sharon.goodchild@hants.gov.uk
Julie Wells	District Parent Support Officer - Eastleigh	julie.wells@hants.gov.uk
Wendy Eves	District Parent Support Officer - Fareham and Havant	wendy.eves@hants.gov.uk
Jackie Hilton	District Parent Support Officer - New Forest and Test Valley	jackie.hilton@hants.gov.uk
Jo Williamson	Choice Advisor	jo.williamson@hants.gov.uk
Anne Powell	Information Analyst	anne.powell@hants.gov.uk
Chloe Simonson	Administrative Officer	chloe.simonson@hants.gov.uk

### 2. Parenting experts

Two Parenting Practitioner posts are currently being recruited to offer targeted support to vulnerable groups of children and families. They will complement existing provision and work with families where there are concerns around substance misuse, offending, mental health and/or domestic violence.

### 3. Parent Support Advisors

Hampshire has received standards funding, through an extended schools sustainability grant, to introduce a new role into extended school clusters. Parent Support Advisors (PSAs) will increase schools' capacity to provide access to parenting support services to help improve attendance and reduce exclusion rates. The funding is available until March 2011 and has been sufficient to offer a 0.8fte PSA post for 35 school clusters, with additional posts to be added from April 2009. Recruitment is under way.

### 4. Choice Advice

Jo Williamson, Choice Advisor, has been working directly with parents and carers requiring additional support with the school admissions process, helping them make the best and most realistic choice of secondary school for their child. A guide to choosing a secondary school and preparing for the October application deadline was issued to parents of all year 5 children during the Summer term, and in September all year 6 parents received a Choice Advice leaflet as part of their secondary school application pack. Over 150 parents have requested support this term and parents who do not return their applications will be contacted after November to offer encouragement. Last year non returns numbered over 500 pupils. 10,000 information postcards, 'Starting School in September 2009' were distributed to early years parents and carers via children's centres, the Early Education and Childcare Unit, Extended Service Co-ordinators, Hampshire Families (formerly HCFF) and the Parent Support Team.

### 5. Parent Know How

Parent Know How, an innovative national programme bringing together a range of services to support and advise parents, can now be accessed via telephone, SMS and the web. It is designed to improve provision to all parents, with a particular focus on meeting the needs of those who are not as well served by current sources of help as they could be, including parents of disabled children, fathers from all backgrounds and parents of teenage children. For more information go to [www.everychildmatters.gov.uk/parents/parentknowhow](http://www.everychildmatters.gov.uk/parents/parentknowhow).

#### Contact details

Children's Services Department (Southside Offices)  
The Castle, Winchester SO23 8UG

#### Children's Centre Services

Tel: 01962 847291  
Email: [childrenscentres@hants.gov.uk](mailto:childrenscentres@hants.gov.uk)  
Web: [www.hants.gov.uk/childrens-centres](http://www.hants.gov.uk/childrens-centres)

#### Extended Schools

Tel: 01962 845470  
Email: [stephanie.king@hants.gov.uk](mailto:stephanie.king@hants.gov.uk)  
Web: [www.hants.gov.uk/extended-schools](http://www.hants.gov.uk/extended-schools)

#### Parent Support Team

Tel: 01962 845448  
Email: [parent.development@hants.gov.uk](mailto:parent.development@hants.gov.uk)  
Web: [www.hants.gov.uk/parentdevelopment](http://www.hants.gov.uk/parentdevelopment)