

Early Support places in Children's Centres

Children are eligible for funded early support places if they live in Haringey, are aged from 2 to 5 years and have special/additional needs for one of the following reasons:

- Significant chronic health difficulties (i.e. cardiac, tracheotomy, degenerative disease) that are limiting developmental experiences.
- Severe physical disability or severe sensory impairment.
- Severe or profound development delay.
- Moderate general developmental delay where child has additional health, behaviour or emotional difficulties that preclude local playgroup/nursery experience.
- Social communication difficulties or ASD in the moderate to severe range

All placements are part time only unless the Early Support Manager's referral meeting agree to a full time place for one of the following reasons (in conjunction with above criteria):

- 3 year old child who is a new arrival to Haringey with limited or no previous educational experience and where there is no full-time place available within their local school or local community.
- Health of carers is limiting child's play and developmental opportunities.

If there is a high demand for places priority will be given to children where there are safeguarding concerns in addition to the above.

The Children's Centres that offer these places are:

- Stonecroft
- Triangle
- Plevna
- Park Road
- Woodside
- Woodlands
- Rowland Hill
- Broadwater Farm

Referrals are made by practitioners in health, social care, or education on the Common Assessment Framework (CAF) form. They are then discussed at the Early Support Managers referral meeting which meets fortnightly. A place will be allocated at the Centre preferred by the family wherever possible but this is not always possible as the places in each Centre are limited. If no places are available and the child meets the criteria their name will be placed on the waiting list and they will be allocated a place as soon as possible,

The referral meeting also discusses when the assessment for a statement of special educational need should start and makes referrals to other services if necessary.

A meeting will take place before a child starts at the Children Centre to ensure that all the necessary information is available to the Staff at the Children's Centre to enable them to meet the child's social and health needs

Further information about Early Support places at Children's Centres can be obtained from Shubi Raymond on 020 8489 1497 or from Robert Hughes 020 8489 3687 c/o Disabled Children's Team, 40 Cumberland Road, N22 7SG.