



NEWSLETTER

14th July 2023

Telephone 0121 464 2705

We are rapidly approaching a time of change in school.

All of our pupils have met their new teacher and been taught in their new classroom. Parents have had the chance to come and say hello too. Our year 6 children have visited their new schools and members of those schools year 7 transition teams have been into Harborne Primary School to meet with them. It has been great to welcome our new reception cohort as well and we're very much looking forward to them starting with us in September.

Like hermit crabs looking for a new shell, our children have outgrown their current year groups and are ready to move on to a better fit that matches their increasing maturity!

It's understandable that some will be nervous. We encourage all families to talk to their children about their feelings at this time and reassure them that they are ready for the change and will settle quickly into their new class or year group. If families wish, they can get in touch with our pastoral team of Mrs Quadri and Miss Hussain who will be able to support your children further.

There are changes afoot amongst our staff members too.

We will be saying goodbye at the end of this year to our former HR manager Mrs Badesha and receptionist Mrs Kang who are both moving on to new opportunities elsewhere. Miss Hollywood will also be moving on to a new career in the NHS. Miss Lord will be leaving us temporarily as she looks to teach abroad for a year. Mrs Coles has retired after more than thirty years in education and Mrs Sprackling will be leaving us after more than thirty years at Harborne Primary School.

I'd like to take this opportunity to thank the colleagues that are moving on to the next stage in their lives for their hard work and commitment to Harborne Primary School. There are some very big shoes to fill and they will be missed enormously by school staff and children alike.

However the school continues to move forward and in September we will welcome Mr Whitehouse as head; teaching assistants Mrs Morris, Mrs Bhojwani and Mrs Dhanda and classteachers Mrs Cheel, Miss Oretton and Mrs Dalzell to the Harborne family.

Finally, I couldn't close without once again mentioning the year 6 children and team. What a fantastically slick production we all enjoyed yesterday evening. There was lots of talent on display—very well done to all involved.

Change of date for academic year 2023/2024:

School will be closed on the following dates:

- Monday 4th September 2023 (Staff Training)
- ***Tuesday 5th September 2023 (Staff Training)***
- Monday 8th January 2024 (Staff Training)
- Thursday 2nd May 2024 (Staff Training)
- Monday 6th May 2024 Bank Holiday
- Monday 22nd July 2024 (Staff Training)

We have moved the training day that was scheduled for 27th October to 5th September.

Arrival at School

We have seen a growing trend of some of our older pupils arriving at school very early in the morning. Please can we remind families that school doesn't accept responsibility for children on site before 8:45.

Reading books: end of year arrangements

Thank you for all your support for your children's reading this year. It makes such a difference to children's progress when home and school work together in this way.

As we come to the end of the school year, we need to collect in the reading books to assess our stock and get ready for next year. We will be collecting in all reading books by Friday 21st July. Please can you have a really good check at home to see if you have any school books (hidden on a book shelf, under a bed, in a different bag...) and return them to school? This is particularly important for our Y6 pupils who will be leaving us to carry on reading in their new secondary schools!

Read on for more information to come about how you can carry on reading in the summer holidays!

Summer Reading Challenge



The Summer Reading Challenge is on! 'Ready, Set, Read' is the name of the game and this year the theme is sports and games. You can take part in your local library or online. You can set yourself a reading goal and log your reading to unlock digital goodies. There are lots of ideas for books to read online (<https://summerreadingchallenge.org.uk>) and at the library.

Happy summer reading everyone!

Mrs Sprackling

Our year 6 children will soon be starting a very new chapter in their lives! Each Secondary School organises transition events for their intake of all new children and they will have been in contact with you about this.

We are also liaising with schools to provide additional support.

These are some of the things that have been happening this term to support our SEN Children with their transition:

- Extra transition visits*
- Attendance of new school staff at review meetings*
- A transition programme for pupils in school, looking at possible challenges such as timetables, planners, moving around the building, saying goodbye to old friends, facing change*
- Liaison between us and the SENCo of the new school*
- Visits by Secondary school key worker or SENCo to meet children and see them in their current setting*
- The passing on of information for the new school around the support that we have found effective in our school*

We wish all Year 6 pupils, and families, a happy and successful transition ☺

We've had a few hot days in school this week and I thought it would be useful to clarify how Harborne Primary School will respond to hot weather.

Please note: our approach will change depending on the severity of the forecast heat.

Normal hot, summery weather

All children should come to school having already applied all day or long lasting sun cream at home. Although the situation will be frequently monitored, school staff will still look to take the children outside for some fresh air during hot weather. Children also need to bring a sunhat and a water bottle, both of which should be named please.

Amber Warning

Should the Met Office issue an Amber warning for heat for the B17 area, families should follow the guidance above, but children will also be free to come to school wearing their PE kits should they wish. School staff will restrict the amount of time children spend in the sun during the hottest parts of the day, looking to take groups of pupils to shaded spaces outside or back inside the building. Adults in school will also take care to remind pupils to drink frequently and to top up their water bottles when needed.

Red Warning

Should the Met Office issue a Red warning for extreme heat for the B17 area, parents can decide whether or not it is safe for them to bring their children into school. A Red warning indicates that the forecast weather is dangerous and that families should take action to protect themselves.

In these very extreme circumstances, an absence due to heat will be authorised, but families should contact the school to explain their child's absence in the usual manner. Families that do decide to send their children into school should follow the guidance above regarding sun cream, sunhats, water bottles and clothing. The school will also offer a window for early collection of children should families feel that is the best option for them. The timings of this window will be shared on the day.

We don't anticipate having to close the whole school due to extreme heat so after school clubs will continue to run as normal. We want to give families the opportunity to risk assess their own situation and make the decision that they feel is best for them.

I'm sure many families will remember the very extreme heat we all experienced last summer and while I'm not aware of the same being forecast for this year, it's worth sharing how the school will respond should the same happen again.



Achievement Assembly Certificate Winners - w/e 7/07/2023

These are the children who have received certificates for good work or setting a good example to others. Well done to them all!



| | | |
|-----|----------------|-----------------|
| RLB | No Assembly | |
| RGT | No Assembly | |
| ROC | No Assembly | |
| RKD | No Assembly | |
| 1M | Jack Salt | Caleb Povendler |
| 1G | No Assembly | |
| 1OQ | No Assembly | |
| 1L | No Assembly | |
| 2O | No Assembly | |
| 2B | No Assembly | |
| 2S | No Assembly | |
| 2P | Sava Tripkovic | Gurvir Atkar |
| 3MB | No Assembly | |
| 3B | No Assembly | |
| 3PR | No Assembly | |
| 3S | No Assembly | |
| 4GV | No Assembly | |
| 4B | No Assembly | |
| 4L | No Assembly | |
| 4W | No Assembly | |
| 5BC | No Assembly | |
| 5C | No Assembly | |
| 5E | No Assembly | |
| 6D | No Assembly | |
| 6J | No Assembly | |
| 6KP | No Assembly | |





Dates in the Diary

| | |
|----------------|---|
| Wed 19th July | Optional Parent Evening |
| Tues 25th July | Last day of term—break up for Summer Holidays |
| Wed 6th Sept | School re-opens |
| Thurs 25th Jan | Year 5 / Year 6 High Maths Day |

Our ref: AA/CP/Jul23

July 2023

Dear Parent/Carer

Apply online for your child's secondary school place – September 2024

Your child is due to transfer from primary to secondary school in September 2024. Local authorities co-ordinate secondary transfer admissions for all maintained (non-fee paying) schools. This means parent/carers should apply to the local authority in which they live (the council to which they pay council tax).

If you live in Birmingham you should apply for your child's secondary school place online at www.birmingham.gov.uk/schooladmissions between 1 September and 31 October 2023. It is important that you submit your application by 31 October 2023. **Applications received after the national closing date of 31 October 2023 will be treated as late applications.** Late applicants are less likely to be offered a place at one of their preferred schools, as these applications will be processed after 1 March 2024, in accordance with Birmingham's coordinated admissions scheme.

We know this is an important time for you and your child, and we encourage you to find out as much as you can about local schools and how the admissions process works before you make your application, as a lack of awareness of the correct procedures may affect the outcome of your application.

Information about the application process will be available on the council's website, www.birmingham.gov.uk/schooladmissions from 1 September 2023.

The website includes information on types of schools, how to apply online, how places are offered, details of the individual schools and their admissions arrangements, and what to do if you are not offered one of your preferred schools. If you do not have a device that can access the internet, your child's primary school may be able to help you. You may also be able to access a computer via a friend or relative.

We strongly advise you visit the websites of your preferred schools for further information about the school and details of any open days or evenings. You should also carefully consider how likely you are to be offered a place at one of your preferred schools, and find out more about the order in which places are offered (oversubscription criteria) by reading the information on the schools you are interested in. Please note that before completing your online application you **must** confirm that you have read the admissions arrangements.

If you are applying for any school under the distance category, make sure you check the last distance an applicant was offered from over the past three years (where applicable). While this **is no guarantee** that your application will be successful for September 2024, it will give an indication of whether you should consider including the school as one of your preferences.

We advise you to use all six preferences to maximise your chances of getting a place at one of the schools you prefer.

You can amend your school preferences on the online admissions form as many times as you like until the closing date of 31 October 2023. Please remember that, if you do make amendments to your original online admissions form, you **must re-submit** your application for the latest changes to take effect by selecting **submit** again. **If you do not re-submit your application after going back in to make changes, your previously submitted application will remain, and your new one will be disregarded.**

Your application will be processed using the address currently held by your child's primary/junior school. Please note, if the address on your application differs from the address held on our database, you will be asked to send us proof of your address in the form of your most recent council tax bill for 2023/2024. **If you do not provide adequate proof of address by the closing date of 31 October 2023, your child's application will not be processed.** For further information, please visit the "Proof of Address" section in the School Admissions webpages: [Proof of address: transfer to year 7 and start of school in reception year](#) | [Proof of home address for school admissions](#) | [Birmingham City Council](#)

You will receive an email confirming which school your child has been offered by the end of the day on 1 March 2024.

If you have any questions about your child transferring to secondary school, in the first instance please visit our website: www.birmingham.gov.uk/schooladmissions where you will find all the relevant information to support you through this process.

Yours sincerely,



Alan Michell

Head of Service
Schools Admissions, Attendance, Exclusions and Pupil Tracking
Children and Families Directorate
Birmingham City Council

Enc Information regarding deferred entry and children taught out of their normal year group.



FRIENDS OF HARBORNE PRIMARY SCHOOL

Break The Rules Day Next Friday (July 21st)

Children can have fun breaking the rules on Friday 21st July, and raising money to fund projects and purchases that benefit every child at Harborne Primary School.

Children can break the rules by:

- Wearing their own clothes to school
- Bringing squash in their water bottle
- Coming in with crazy hair, makeup or nail polish
- Playing in any playground
- Wearing a sunhat or sunglasses in class

Suggested £1 per rule broken or donate what you can. You can pay via Parent Pay, bring cash to school on the day or use the QR codes at the school gates on the day.

An easy way to raise funds

easyfundraising makes a difference. If you use it when you shop online, we get a donation from the money you spend.

It's one of the easiest ways to raise money, and over 7,500 brands are included in the scheme, including John Lewis & Partners, eBay, Argos and M&S. It doesn't cost you anything and is quick and easy. Why not ask family and friends to sign-up too?

<https://www.easyfundraising.org.uk/causes/harborneprimary/>

Dates for your diary

Friday July 21st:
Break the Rules Day



Break the Summer Rules!

Have fun breaking the rules
on Friday 21st July!

Suggested £1 per rule broken or donate what you can. You can pay via Parent Pay, bring cash to school on the day or use the QR codes at the school gates on the day.

You can break the rules by:

- Wearing your own clothes
- Bringing squash in your water bottle
- Crazy hair, make up or nail polish
- Playing in any playground
- Wearing a sunhat or sunglasses in class



All proceeds help fund projects and purchases
that benefit every child in the school

Registered Charity Number 1019440



KIER

Notification of tree works



Birmingham City Council has arranged for work to be carried out on the trees in your street.

| | |
|----------------------------|---|
| Location: | Court Oak Road, Harborne Closed Between Grosvenor Road and Wood Lane, working opposite 1 19 |
| Date: | Starting 23/07/2023 |
| Duration: | Approx. 1 day between 10.00 and 15.00 |
| Traffic Management: | Road closure with car removals |

We are issuing you this notice as access to your property may be restricted at times. We must ask that vehicles are not parked anywhere near the work locations on this road on the dates shown above.

Vehicles obstructing our works may be relocated to an adjacent street by Mansfield Recovery, with no charge. Please contact Mansfield direct on 0870 6003444 if your vehicle has been removed. We understand that vehicle access may be essential for some medical / personal reasons. If you need to get a vehicle to your property during these works please ask our personnel on site or call 0121 303 6644, option 4 Customer Service. Pedestrian access will be maintained at all times.

If you have any questions, concerns, or comments, please visit:

www.birmingham.gov.uk/roadworks or call our Customer Service team on 0121 303 6644.

Date issued: 06/07/2023

School's Out Take an emotional health check



Head into the summer with a better understanding of your **child's brain development** and their **emotional wellbeing** as you support them into their next new phase.

FACT

Our brains develop most rapidly in childhood shaping our emotional health and wellbeing for the rest of our lives.

HERE FOR YOU

Online courses developed by clinical psychologists can help you to **understand your child**, **read their behaviour** and **help them look after their emotional health**.



inourplace.co.uk

Understanding your child online course has been paid for by **Birmingham Children's Partnership**, so you can access it **completely free** using the code **COMMUNITY**

Short courses on **Understanding the impact of the pandemic on your child or teenager** also included.



THE STRINGS CLUB

MAKE THE SCHOOL HOLIDAYS UNFORGETTABLE!

Try our Multi Award-Winning Holiday Camps

- 🕒 Tax Free & Childcare Vouchers
- 👨👩 Sibling Discount
- 🎸 Free Instrument Hire
- 📅 Flexible days and hours to suit
- 👤 1 Adult to 8 Children Ratio

**FOR 10% OFF
YOUR BOOKING!**

Use Code:
NEWCUS10

**FIND YOUR
NEAREST
HOLIDAY CAMP**

And book online!



SCAN ME!



WWW.THESTRINGSCLUB.ORG

☎ 0121 296 9204

or connect via social





Make sure your child's Summer is unforgettable!

The Strings Club multi-award winning summer Holiday Camps for 4-11 year olds offer top quality childcare that you can trust.

Hallfield School , 48 Church Rd, B15 3SJ

Dates - wc 17th July 2023

Harborne Academy, Harborne Road, B15 3JL
Dates - wc 24th July 2023 - wc 21st August 2023

Our interactive activities are led by qualified, friendly, fully-DBS checked practitioners and musicians who know how to inspire children from drop-off to pick-up time!

Why Join The Strings Club?

- Sessions in guitar, violin or ukulele
- FREE to hire instrument - even to take home
- Different theme every week
- Afternoon workshops from sport to art to drama
- One trained adult to 8 children - for all ages
- Daily Diaries and Newsletters - with access to gallery
- Book 1 day to the whole experience
- Discounts including 10% sibling discount and tax free

We look forward to
seeing you soon!

The Strings Club





1 CREATE YOUR OWN CALM


2 WORD SEARCH

CELEO
GUITAR
VIOLIN
VIOLA
BANJO
UKULELE
HARP
PIANO
CROTCHET
QUAVER
STRINGS
BRIDGE

3 WORD SCRAMBLE

SVGURATIUGC3IK
QACDEUABRIDGE
UABEFKUQFORAH
ALH3LUSCHIRTS
VOVIOLINTOPGP
EIKPAED3NABIV
RVRPDLGCASAE
AAHUQET3GNOP
HILTECTORCRL

1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28 29 30 31 32 33 34 35 36 37 38 39 40 41 42 43 44 45 46 47 48 49 50 51 52 53 54 55 56 57 58 59 60 61 62 63 64 65 66 67 68 69 70 71 72 73 74 75 76 77 78 79 80 81 82 83 84 85 86 87 88 89 90 91 92 93 94 95 96 97 98 99 100



THE STRINGS CLUB

LOOKING FOR SOMETHING A LITTLE DIFFERENT FOR THE SCHOOL HOLIDAYS?

Gold Trustworthy Business Award 5 stars Feefo

WHAT WE DO



Holiday Camps

Running throughout the school holidays, a typical day includes a morning of music-making on either Guitar, Violin or Ukulele followed by an afternoon of workshops including sports, music, drama, dance and art.

Each Holiday Camp ends with a grand concert – so your child and their new friends can proudly show you what they've learnt!



Free Discovery Sessions

Our Discovery Sessions are the perfect way to ignite your child's love of music, inspiring them from the off-set.

Sign up to our newsletter for upcoming events and we'll email over a free downloadable Ukulele book!



Afterschool Clubs

Inspiring pupils right up until pick up time, our school programmes are led by our top string teachers, are progressive and not to mention – lots of fun!

Nominate your child's school on our website today.



The Strings Club has inspired thousands of children aged 4-11

Multi award-winning, Ofsted-registered music programmes

WAYS TO SAVE

At The Strings Club we aim to make the love of music accessible to children of all abilities and backgrounds. That's why we're proud to offer plenty of ways to save money with us.



Sibling Discount

We know childcare can be pricey especially with more than one child so we offer 10% discount.



Tax Free & Childcare Vouchers

We are proud to be registered with all childcare vouchers and tax free childcare.



Free Instrument Hire

We offer free instrument hire at our Holiday Camps. This includes: Violin, Guitar or Ukulele.



"Recommend to a Friend" Offer

Recommend a friend and you'll both receive 10% off your next booking with us.



Flexible days and hours to suit

Choose to join us for one day to the whole experience. From standard hours to wrap around care, you can even choose the hours to suit you too.

WHY CHOOSE THE STRINGS CLUB?

We bring together the very best in childcare and music education to engage and inspire your child.



Spark a lifelong love of music

We know the huge part music plays in our lives. That's why each of our programmes are created to introduce music in a fun-filled, rewarding way.

Multi skills development

Music has a powerful impact on a child's development from creativity, problem solving, time management to language development and maths.



Surprising health benefits

Playing an instrument has so many benefits from wellbeing and mental health, immune response, posture, stress release to confidence and focus.

GET IN TOUCH

We'd love to hear from you!

EXPLORE OUR EVENTS

And book online!



SCAN ME!

WWW.THESTRINGSCLUB.ORG

0121 296 9204

or connect via social



4.8/5

Rated 4.8/5 on Feefo by happy parents

500k+

Children worldwide

96%

Of parents would recommend us

SUMMER
HOLIDAYS

PREMIER HOLIDAY CAMPS



Premier
Education

INSPIRING
ACTIVITY



**SCAN HERE FOR
MORE INFORMATION**

or visit premier-education.com/holiday-camps



Trustpilot



Based on over 15,000 reviews

PREMIER EDUCATION SUMMER HOLIDAY CAMP



HARBORNE ACADEMY SUMMER HOLIDAY CAMP!

Premier Education are pleased to announce that we will be running a Multi-Activity Holiday Camp at Harborne Academy this summer. Children will need a packed lunch, a water bottle and appropriate clothing for plenty of FUN activities!

PARENT FUNDED (MULTI-ACTIVITY HOLIDAY CAMP)

| VENUE | DATE | AGE | TIME | DAILY PRICE |
|--|--|------------------|-----------|----------------------------------|
| Harborne Academy, Harborne Road, B15 3JL | Monday 31 st July – Friday 1 st September | 4 -12 years old* | 9am – 4pm | £18.83 per day (30% Discount) |

*4-year-old children are welcome and can attend our camps between 9am – 1pm (£10.77 per day)

Scan the QR code or visit the link to book: <https://family.premier-education.com/add-course/831406>



FREE CAMP (MULTI-ACTIVITY HOLIDAY AND FOOD CAMP)

Only children eligible for free school meals (FSM) can book onto the free camp; proof of FSM eligibility will be required. Lunch is provided, and children will need a water bottle and snacks.

| VENUE | DATE | AGE | TIME | DAILY PRICE |
|--|---|-----------------|------------|-------------|
| Harborne Academy, Harborne Road, B15 3JL | Monday 7 th August – Friday 25 th August | 4 -12 years old | 12pm – 4pm | FREE |

Scan the QR code or visit the link to book: <https://family.premier-education.com/add-course/835007>





**SCHOOL SUMMER HOLIDAY 2023'S
RESOURCE BOOKLET FOR FAMILY RESIDENTS AND TENANTS**

This is a



‘signposting’ guide for Birmingham families to access information on various play and youth activities, free holiday clubs with meals, family attractions and known organised community events in Birmingham, during this year’s Summer School Holiday period.

Birmingham Council’s holiday club programme- BRING IT ON BRUM

<https://www.bringitonbrum.co.uk/>

Bring it on Brum! is a programme funded by the Department for Education designed for families in Birmingham to help children, young people and their parents have fulfilling, active, fun-filled and healthy school holidays.

Bring it on Brum! holiday clubs are designed for children who are eligible for benefits-related free school meals. Schools will issue a Bring it on Brum! code to each eligible child. Your family residents will be asked to confirm this code when they register. They need to contact their children school if they have not received the code.

The booking for the summer holiday clubs will start from the 2nd of July 2023, and your family residents need to undertake the activity via the website. You need to contact the company directly with any enquires.

There are additional free childcare and play related resources on the website which parents can use to entertain their children during the summer holiday period.



Summer Reading Challenge 2023

<https://summerreadingchallenge.org.uk/>

The aim of the challenge is to encourage children to read a number of books during the summer holiday period. They can either register online, or visit their local Birmingham lib to find out more about the activity and to register.



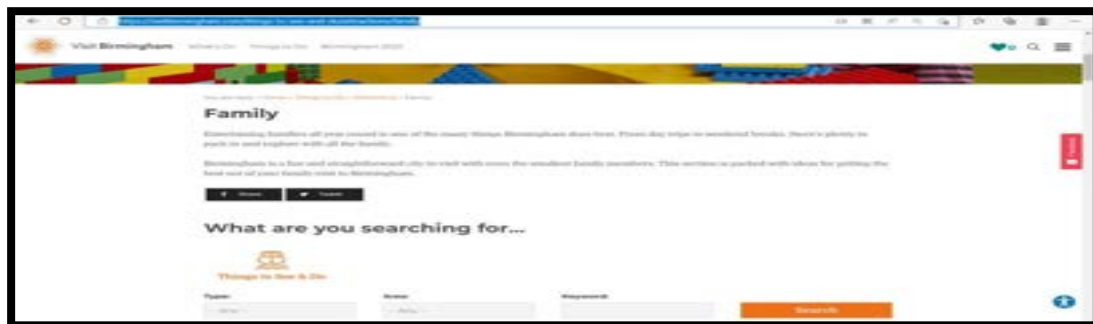
S



This is the official Birmingham council's website with the locations and addresses of the libraries

<https://www.birmingham.gov.uk/libraries>

Website to search for Birmingham attractions and 'places to visit' for families.



Website highlighting Birmingham public bus transportation and journey planning information.



<https://www.tfwm.org.uk/plan-your-journey/ways-to-travel/buses-in-the-west-midlands/>

50

things to do

before you're

five

BIRMINGHAM

birmingham.50thingstodo.org

@50ThingsBrum



Tick-off **50 fantastic things** for you and your child to experience together.

50 Things To Do Before You're Five gives you 50 activities that parents and carers can support their children to try out and repeat.

Download the app for free and dive straight in!



Download on the App Store

GET IT ON Google Play



Birmingham City Council



Birmingham Early Years Networks



food justice network.

Birmingham, UK.



Scan this QR code to see the Food Justice Network Map

The map will show you details of free food support and food based activities nearby to you.

Or you can type this into your browser to open the Food Justice Network Map on a webpage:
<https://tinyurl.com/foodjusticemap>

Each location shown on the FJN Map is an independent provider, requirements and access information may differ for each location. Please contact the location directly with any queries



Find FREE activities at: www.theaws.co.uk/our-activities




Search 'The Active Wellbeing Society' on social media



To add/edit your food provision on the map, or for further information, please contact: foodjusticenetwork@theaws.org



food justice network.





BIRMINGHAM FESTIVAL 23



BIRMINGHAM FESTIVAL 23 is a free 10-day Festival taking over Centenary Square with live music and performance, creative and participatory activities, and big-screen content to conjure the shared experiences, magic and memories of the summer of '22.

THE OFFICIAL FESTIVAL OF THE BIRMINGHAM 2022 COMMONWEALTH GAMES- ORGANISED BY BIRMINGHAM CITY COUNCIL

Across 10 days and 9 evenings, from 28th July 2023 to 6th August 2023, 6th August, **Birmingham Festival 23** will welcome 190,000 audiences, artists, local communities and volunteers, who reflect the diversity of the city, coming together to watch, listen, relax, dance and play.

For further information regarding the festival's timetable of activities, etc, please visit the following website:-

<https://www.birminghamfestival23.co.uk/>

Other websites featuring suggested places of interest and attractions in Birmingham for families.

<https://www.birminghammail.co.uk/whats-on/family-kidsnews/things-kids-birmingham-ultimate-guide-10452235>

<https://www.dayoutwiththekids.co.uk/things-to-do/westmidlands/west-midlands/birmingham>

<https://letsgowiththechildren.co.uk/events/birmingham/>

Website featuring home based children's activities.



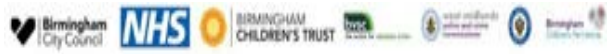
<https://www.bringitonbrum.co.uk/home-activities/>

Free online downloadable children activity packs



https://www.twinkl.co.uk/resource/summer-activity-booklet-geography-t-g1655113064?utm_source=newsletter&utm_medium=email&utm_campaign=n

Birmingham Family Hub



Newslet- High-

'Best Start for Life'
now

Free Apps and
Resources

5th Family Hubs

Family Hubs - July update

Work on Family Hubs is continuing at pace and we are delighted to share free resources, funded through the programme that are already available in Birmingham for families and professionals alike.

Our latest Family Hubs workshop was enthusiastically attended and we are grateful to the 50+ people who attended on the day. More below.

We are very pleased to share the 'Best Start for Life' website which is now live. We would welcome your comments on it as it develops and grows. We want this to be the best 'one stop shop' in the City for expectant parents and those with very young children.

5th Family Hubs workshop

The 'Best Start for Life' website is now live – have your say!

We are delighted that the Best Start for Life website is now live! 'Best Start for Life' is a part of the Family Hubs programme that helps families with children aged 0-19 or 25 who have special educational needs and disabilities (SEND). 'Best Start for Life' focuses on support, information and resources from conception until a child is 2 years old. This is the important first 1001 days where the foundations of a child's life are built.

Co-production on the website is underway and we are developing a city wide parent/carer advisory group to help us to produce the best and most useful website. The full Family Hubs website will follow in the Autumn. We are continuing to work on our branding for 'Family Hubs' and 'Best Start for Life' and we want to involve partners, families and children and young people in helping to choose the brand for Birmingham. Look out for more on this soon.

Resources Already Available to Families

Family Hubs is already offering 3 resources for parents, carers and professionals to access for free:

The Solihull Approach – free online Parenting Courses

The Solihull Approach offers a range of free online courses for parents/carers and professionals covering a wide range of subject from conception to parenting 19 year olds. Birmingham City Council has bought the licence to the course (worth £88 each) for everyone in the City. Just use the word 'COMMUNITY' as the password.

- The evidence based courses range from 'Understanding Your Baby' to 'Understanding the Teenage Brain' and include help with children and young people's mental health
- There are additional courses for children and young people with special educational needs and disabilities
- The courses have been developed with practitioners and parents since 1996





The EasyPeasy App – free resource for professionals and families

The EasyPeasy App brings together the best ideas, advice, and inspiration from a global community of parents, experts, and parenting brands for parents and their 0-5 year olds.

EasyPeasy has partnered with the Department for Education and Speech and Language UK to give families in Birmingham the skills and tools they need to support children's speech, language and communication development as part of the Talk and Play Project Early years providers, local partners and families have free access to the EasyPeasy App.

The App provides families with premium access to thousands of tips, advice, activities and inspiration from a global community of early years experts, partners and other parents and carers.

Things to Do in Birmingham before you are 5 – free App to help with home learning and language development

50 Things to Do helps parents/carers develop their home learning environment so that far more children thrive by the age of five. As a result, more children develop the skills, language and resilience needed in school and beyond.

- A menu of exciting activities for families with young children, giving them great suggestions for how to have fun and learn at the same time.
- Parents and carers will be helping their children to have exciting life experiences, developing confidence and a passion for learning new things, recognising the vital role that they play in helping to realise their children's potential
- The initiative is based on the simple notion that access to life-changing, fun, low or nocost experiences with your family, indoors and outdoors, is a great way to support young children's development.



Download the App from App stores or via the website linked above.

The Family Hubs Workshop - Service Mapping: June 2023

We are very grateful to the 50+ people who attended our latest partnership Family Hubs workshop at the MAC on Monday 26th June. The day was very interesting and informative as we looked at all the resources available to families in Birmingham, barriers to accessing services and how to overcome those. We had some very helpful feedback from the rich discussions had on the day; all of the comments and feedback will be taken on board to further inform the development of Family Hubs across the City.



We also enjoyed a very interesting session on the data available to us in the City and how we might share that more effectively.

A follow up workshop will be taking place in early Autumn where we will bring key stakeholders and partners back together. In the meantime, we will be doing locality level engagement over the coming weeks, as well as working with individual services to continue to map out their offer, ensuring join up across the City between services. We will ensure that all relevant information is available on the '[Best Start for Life](#)' website.

Themes from the Day

Six key themes emerged from the tabletop activity around barriers to accessing services:

- Sustainability of funding
- Accessibility: everyone knows where and how to access support
- Accessibility: language and cultural barriers
- Accessibility: financial costs of accessing services
- Stigma attached to accessing services
- Looking at our own approach

Following on from identifying challenges, we are hoping to develop a partnership approach to engagement, access to services and local needs.

If you have any questions, comments or would like to get involved in Family Hubs or Best Start for Life, please don't hesitate to email - Familyhubs@birmingham.gov.uk