

Early years, childcare, children's centres and SAFE 0-12

Head of Service: Charles Barnard - 020 8825 6139

The service is responsible for ensuring that there is sufficient good quality early education and childcare across Ealing. This also includes services for families with children from pre-birth to twelve years - Supportive Action for Families in Ealing (SAFE 0-12).

Children's Centres

Children's Centres provide a wide range of early years services, childcare and early education, early child and family health and family learning. These include: support and outreach services for parents, carers and children; information and advice to parents /carers; support to childminders; activities for children /carers and links to Job Centre Plus.

Ealing now has 25 Children's Centres with a further 2 centres nearing completion, creating a network of centres across the borough. Of these centres, 21 are situated in or near to areas that are among the 30% most disadvantaged in England. However, it is recognised that within more affluent areas of the borough there will be pockets of disadvantage. Since April 2010, Children's Centres are inspected and regulated by Ofsted.

Information about the range of Children's Centres services is available through 3 Area Newsletters – Acton/Ealing, Northolt/Greenford and Perivale and Southall. These are widely distributed and also available from the Family Information Service (for details see entry below).

Regular Children's Centres updates are included in the Directors Report to Schools. If you would like to find out more about the Children's Centres programme in Ealing visit www.childrenscentres.org.uk or contact Clare Welsby, Children's Centres Strategic Manager on 020 8825 5213, email cwelsby@ealing.gov.uk or Esther Digan, Children's Centres Administrator on 020 8825 5232 (fax 020 8825 8270), email edigan@ealing.gov.uk

Children's Centres Area Boards

Three key objectives underline Ealing's strategic approach to Children's Centre developments.

Quality:

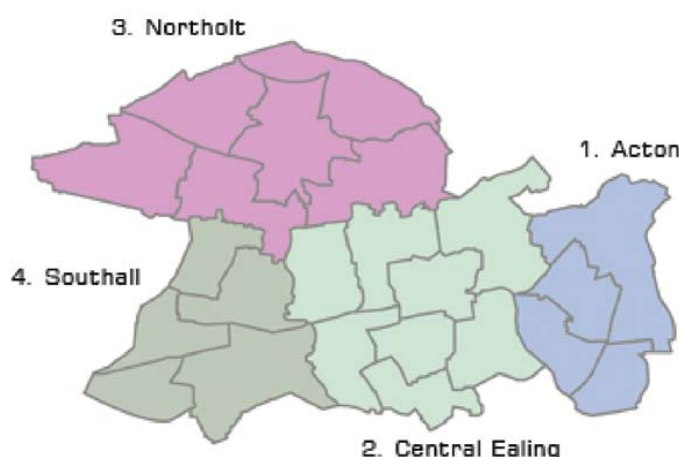
To develop high quality services.

Reduce Child Poverty:

To target support, improve outcomes and reduce inequality.

Safeguarding:

To protect children from harm and neglect so that they are able to grow up and realise their full potential.



These key objectives shape decision making in the delivery of the Children's Centre agenda and provide a clear focus for our 4 Area Partnership Boards in Acton, Southall, Central Ealing and Northolt.

Area Partnership Boards

These Partnership Boards meet quarterly. Dates for Area Board meetings are available on: http://www.childrenscentres.org.uk/cc_guidance_notes.asp (see calendar).

For further information on Children's Centres in your area contact the Family Information Service (FIS) http://www.childrenscentres.org.uk/cis_index.asp

The FIS provides relevant information on childcare (0-13), activities, funding, young person's information (14-19) and other support services for parents and carers, children and young people.

Family Information Service

We are Ealing Council's service dedicated to providing information, advice and guidance on a wide range of subjects for children, young people and families. Our Information Officers receive over **800** calls a month and are very experienced at dealing with all sorts of enquires. The Family Information Service (FIS) also conducts outreach sessions at a variety of settings and events.

Our service is free, confidential and impartial.

We can help parents:

- Find Ofsted registered childcare including nurseries, childminders, after-school clubs and holiday play schemes
- Find and access a children's centre
- Understand funding schemes to help pay for childcare
- Understand Child Tax Credit and Working Tax Credit
- Access training for working with children
- Access the Nusergy Education Grant for 3 and 4 year olds
- Access and apply for 2 year old funding
- Access family support e.g. domestic violence, bullying, parenting, support groups and services
- Find out about activities for children and young people e.g. play centres, clubs and sports, parent and toddler groups
- With children who have additional needs or disability e.g. childcare (inc. respite care), leisure activities, support groups, funding schemes

We can help childcare providers and settings:

- Understand funding for childcare
- Access training
- Ensure information points are up-to-date and relevant
- Promote their service and facilities
- We can do outreach work to support events and different initiatives
- Registering as a childminder
- Starting a childcare business

Please refer parents to us or call us for information advice and guidance.

Contact: Donna Tomkins, Acting Deputy Manager – 020 8825 9765

Location: Early Years and Childcare Service
25a Laurel Gardens, Hanwell W7 3JG
(Opposite Grays Garage, Uxbridge Road)

Tel: 020 8825 5588 (Mon-Fri 9am to 5pm)

Email: children@ealing.gov.uk

Website: www.childrenscentres.org.uk

The FIS are also the first point of contact for all Common Assessment Framework (CAF) enquires, maintenance of the CAF register and CAF monitoring.

Specifically the FIS can:

- Confirm whether a CAF already exists for a child young person or their sibling
- Support your understanding of Thresholds of Need in deciding what level of service the child/young person needs
- Issue a unique reference number for a CAF registration
- Help you to access services you may wish to invite to a Team Around A Child (TAC) meeting
- Provide CAF training
- Replenish your stock of CAF forms or CAF Kits

Foundation Stage Team

Ealing's Early Years consultants are responsible for ensuring high quality early years foundation stage provision in Ealing through advice, support and challenge for early years providers, including school, private, voluntary, independent and child minder settings.

This service is provided through visits, publications, newsletters, training opportunities, briefing sessions and Early Years Foundation Stage moderation visits and meetings.

If you would like to find out more please visit www.childrenscentres.org.uk or contact Rachelle Leslie, Principal Early Years Foundation Stage Adviser (acting) on 07702954391, email rleslie@ealing.gov.uk or the Early Years Administrator on 020 8825 7249, email sglace@ealing.gov.uk.

Contact: Rachelle Leslie, Principal Early Years Foundation Stage Adviser (acting)
Tel: 07908 223403
Team Administrator: 020 8825 7249

Supportive Action for Families in Ealing (SAFE 0-12 Service)

There are three SAFE teams located within the borough; these are in Acton (covering Acton & Central Ealing), Southall and Northolt. There is also one borough-wide SAFE Adolescent team.

SAFE 0-12 is an early intervention service that works with children and families to avoid difficulties escalating. The teams include social workers, mental health workers, pupil and family workers, educational psychologists, domestic violence workers, family support workers and a family therapist. In addition there is a community and development worker in each team. For more on SAFE 0-12: <http://www.egfl.org.uk/categories/behaviour/safe/children.html>

The teams welcome telephone contact at the outset to discuss if the team is the appropriate resource for the child. Any subsequent referral should be supported by an assessment of the child's needs using the Common Assessment Framework (CAF). The SAFE team can assist and advise on this process and help organise a Team Around the Child meeting.

Contact details:

SAFE 0-12

Al Fox
SAFE 0-12 Strategic Manager

Early Years & Childcare Service
2nd Floor SE
Perceval House
14-16 Uxbridge Road
Ealing W5 2HL

Tel: 020 8825 6724
Email: foxa@ealing.gov.uk

Southall SAFE

Location: 1st Floor, The Old School, Talbot Road, Southall, UB2 5QH
Tel: 020 8825 9800
Email: southallsafe@ealing.gov.uk

Acton (and Central Ealing) SAFE

Location: 25 Hanbury Road Acton W3 8RX
Tel: 020 8825 7819
Email: actonealingsafe@ealing.gov.uk

Northolt SAFE

Location: 1 Academy Gardens, Northolt, UB5 5QN
Tel: 020 8842 0220
Email: Marcia.besson@surestartnortholt.co.uk