

Team Around the School Newsletter – July 2026



Hello and Welcome

Hello and welcome to our first TAS newsletter! This newsletter is in place of the teams meeting that we usually have in the summer term. Here we have provided an array of information including an update on the Family Hubs, the MAT Team and what will be coming up in the Autumn Term.

We hope you all have a wonderful summer break! ☀️ The TAS meetings will resume in the Autumn Term.

Summer Term Newsletter



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Family Hub Update

The Family Hubs and Children Centres have been busy over the last term with activities:

Togetherness Programme: the Solihull Approach –

Togetherness is an online learning environment developed by psychologists and health practitioners providing accessible learning about emotional health and wellbeing, proven to positively impact mental health, behaviour and relationships.

Togetherness creates these updates for us twice per term – if there is anything additional you would like to see or if you're interested in teacher training or resources, please email togetherness@uhb.nhs.uk

There will be further staff training over the summer to enable all Family Visitors to be able to deliver this programme.

<https://togetherness.co.uk/derby/>



Scan the QR Code for more information about Togetherness

 [PDF version](#)

MP Visit - Baggy Shanker MP attended Best Start Family Hub Osmaston Allenton, Best Start Family Hub Sinfen and Boulton Children's Centre on Friday 12 June 2026 to see the good work that is taking place for Young Carers and the Therapeutic Hub at Boulton Children's Centre. In addition, he was able to see the Young Parents group delivered by the Family Hub for parents aged up to 25 years. The visit was very positive, with great feedback from Baggy Shanker. He has expressed a wish to return at some point to see more of what the hubs have to offer for parents and carers. We will be delighted to welcome him back!

Children's Freedom – We have successfully delivered 3 Children's Freedom Programmes in schools this academic year. We have had some amazing positive feedback from the schools we have delivered at which has been incredible to hear. There will be a further 2 training courses for staff in the Autumn Term around Supporting Children and Young People Impacted by Domestic Abuse and Resource in Parents and Carers impacted by Domestic Abuse.

Midwives to be based at Best Start Osmaston Allenton Family Hub - Midwives will be based permanently at Osmaston Allenton Family Hub from W/C 20 July. This will be for 3 days a week.

Exciting news for the transformation of family support in Derby - As part of the 'Families First National Programme', Derby City Family Hubs and MAT Teams have partnered up with Safe and Sound to begin the snowball effect of delivering the 'Empowering Parents Empowering Communities (EPEC) Programmes'.

The aim is to train parents in EPEC in the hope that some will become Parent Group Leaders to deliver their own EPEC groups, across the city. The 'Being a Parent' courses have been completed in the Family Hubs and at Safe and Sound. There will be training in September for those interested in becoming Parent Group Leaders. Watch this space for the first 'Being a Parent' groups to be delivered by actual parents in January 2027. If you know of any parents/carers who would be interested in delivering this, please sign post them to... or contact for more information.

Introduction to Autism Workshops – Following the success of these workshops in schools, we are now looking to deliver more in the Autumn term. We already have 3 schools signed up, however if you would like to express an interest for your school, **please email Sarah Bonshor and you will be added to the waiting list.**

Parental Communication Workshop – This is in partnership with Reducing Parental Conflict East Midlands and aims to promote positive parental relationships for children. Through positive parenting, children can be supported in their mental health and their long-term life-chances. Some level of arguing and conflict between parents or carers is often a normal part of everyday life, but when there is regular arguing, bickering and frustrations about issues such as parenting, money, family relationships or housework, this can have a lasting impact on children. The aim of the positive parenting group is for families to work through parental conflict and be supported to prevent any impact on children or young people.

Please note this course is not suitable for relationships where domestic violence is present.

Antenatal programme - We have a strong antenatal pathway in the Family Hubs:

- Preparation for Parenthood
- Antenatal Peep Online
- New workshops for weaning babies:
Monday 21 September @ Best Start Family Hub Osmaston Allenton
Tuesday 20 October @ Best Start Family Hub Mackworth Morley
Wednesday 18 November @ Best Start Family Hub Becket

To book these weaning workshops, parents must book via the Chat Health number on 07507327754.

Summer Activities – Free family fun sessions for 0-11years olds and their parents and carers will take place across the City during August. There are various dates and there is no need for families to book, they can just turn up! Our current what's on guide has full details of where the family fun sessions are taking place and these can be found on page 20 of our guide.

MAT Team Update

NVR (Non-Violence Resistance) Training will be starting in September. This course is now full. The sheer volume of referrals has been extremely high. We will keep you posted on future training sessions.

Young Carers visit to Parliament – 7 young carers and 3 staff set off to London on the 7 July. The Derby MP, Baggy Shanker had invited the group to the House of Parliament after being impressed with the animation and 2 videos that they produced. The 7 members are the stars of the videos. The Houses of Parliament visit was a private tour by the MP. The group were taken to areas of the house that are not visited by any other tours. Our group visited the chapel, the suffragette 'hiding cupboard', observed a live session of the House of Lords, original building of the Houses of Parliament, photos on the 'terrace', Q&A in one of the meeting rooms, Photo's on the green (next to Big Ben) plus more. There were several areas we visited where photographs were prohibited. The hour tour lasted an hour and half, the young carers asked lots of questions as they went round on the tour.

For some of our young carers, this was a lot of 'first experiences'. Visiting London, riding a train, riding the underground and of course the Houses of Parliament.

Feedback from our young carers, that have been sent to the MP:

"It was fun I loved it, I really loved the paintings and the statues" **Sam**

" Baggy knew what we did and had seen our film I felt proud" **Sam**

" My favourite bit was the closet where the suffragette hid to get votes for women" **Scarlet**

" I didn't know what an MP did and didn't know who my MP was until today, he was nice and normal! the tour told me such a lot" **Natallia**

The surroundings at Parliament made me feel really poor! I really enjoyed the day. Learnt a lot though" **Lily**

The day was so informative, I learnt such a lot, the chapel was good" **Chloe**

Summer Activities – MAT Team - Over the summer holidays, there is a trip to Roller world and a swim party at Moorways planned for children aged 8-18years.

Swim Party at Moorways – Thursday 6 August – 8-12yrs 2-3pm and 13-16yrs 4-5pm

Rollerworld - Thursday 20 August 10-11.30am

These will be ticket only events and tickets can be collected from various venues across the city:

- Friday 24 July 9.30-11.30am – Best Start Family Hub – Osmaston Allenton
- Monday 27 July 2-4pm – Best Start Family Hub – Sinfin
- Thursday 30 July 4-6pm – Austin Sunnyhill CC

Tickets are free and on a first come first served basis. Please circulate the flyer to your parents and carers.

Early Help Advisors

Early Help Advisors are a team of Children's Practitioners who are here to offer support to partner agencies when supporting families with emerging needs, who do not meet the criteria for intervention from social care. This could be a direct referral to Early Help Advisors or following an Initial Response Referral.

- Support professional curiosity when exploring emerging needs of families.
- Attend Team Around the Family Meetings – ensuring that plans are multi agency and have time scales.
- Offer advise around services within Derby City who can support families before escalation of concerns.
- Support parental engagement in Early Help process and intervention. This can be around reassuring parents about what intervention can look like and the benefits for their family.
- Help with writing an Early Help Assessment and considering then this needs to be submitted to VCM. Ensure that assessment tools are used to explore emerging needs and there is a plan to meet needs identified within the assessment – this includes Young Carers/CRE/CCE.
- Provide professional support around VCM and IRT process. Offer guidance when criteria for intervention is not met and consider what action could be taken to prevent escalation of need.

Please contact Cath Brannan, Senior Early Help Advisor on 641074, cath.brannan@derby.gov.uk or email City-Wide Early Help Advisory Team EarlyHelpAdvisorsCityWide@derby.gov.uk