

Abbots Langley Children's Centre Advisory Board Terms of Reference

Purpose of Advisory Board

The Advisory Board will be there to offer support and advice to Hertsmere Leisure as the Lead Agency. It will ensure that agencies work together effectively to improve all the five outcome areas of Every Child Matters for all young children in Abbots Langley and in particular for the most disadvantaged children.

Objectives

Working with local families, the wider community and local agencies to:

- Develop a shared vision
- Map current services for families in Abbots Langley
- Identify gaps in services
- Produce a clear timetable for the designation of the centre
- Develop a centre development plan

Deliverables

To deliver a Children's Centre with a friendly and stimulating environment for children and their parents/carers, offering the following range of services:-

- Early Years provision (integrated education and care)
- A childminders network
- Parenting education and family support services
- Education, training and employment services
- Health services
- Access to wider services

Meetings

Meetings will be held initially every two months, with extraordinary meetings to be called if necessary.

Membership

Representatives from:

Hertsmere Leisure
CSF Community Team
National Childminding Association
Extended Schools
Primary Schools
Pre-School Learning Alliance
CSF Family Support
West Hertfordshire PCT
County Council
Parish Councillors
Local councillors
County Councillors
Homestart
Parents/ carers
PCSO's
Parents/Carers

In addition, specialist advisors may need to be invited on occasion for particular issues.

The steering group will liaise with the following groups, as appropriate. They will include;

Maternity Services
CAMHS
Adult Learning
MENCAP
Speech Therapy Services
Women's Refuge
Grandparents Group
Children's Fund
Homeless Families Unit
Local Pre-Schools
Local Day Nurseries

Lead Agency

Hertsmere Leisure is the Lead Agency for Abbots Langley Children's Centre.

'The Lead Agency for each individual Children's Centre community will be responsible for ensuring the delivery of core services and the centre development plan. In addition to core services, Lead Agencies will develop services and plans in the context of the needs of their local community, other partners from all sectors and most importantly children, parents and community groups'.

Hertfordshire County Council September 2006- Children's Centre Lead Agency Agreement

Chair

At the first meeting we will ask for nominations for the Chair but in the meantime Liz Applin, Hertsmere Leisure Children's Centre Director, will 'act' as Chair.

Hertsmere Children's Centre feed into two other local District Partnership groups, the Hertsmere District Early Years Development and Childcare Partnership and District Parenting Sub-Group

Decision Making

The Steering group has an advice and support giving role. Decisions should be made by consensus. Key decisions will be taken by Hertsmere Leisure in consultation with their Board of Trustees and the Sure Start Unit at Hertfordshire County Council.