Early Help

2026 - 2027

www.warrington.gov.uk/early-help

WARRINGTON
Borough Council

What is Early Help?

The purpose of Early Help is to support families at the earliest opportunity to enable families to reach their full potential. Any professional working with a child, young person and family, such as those based in schools, health services, or in voluntary sector organisations, can provide early help services by responding to identified needs in order to offer advice and guidance, support and intervention. Early Help works best when it is offered at the right time to the whole family and when services are delivered jointly by professionals. Early Help is everyone's business.

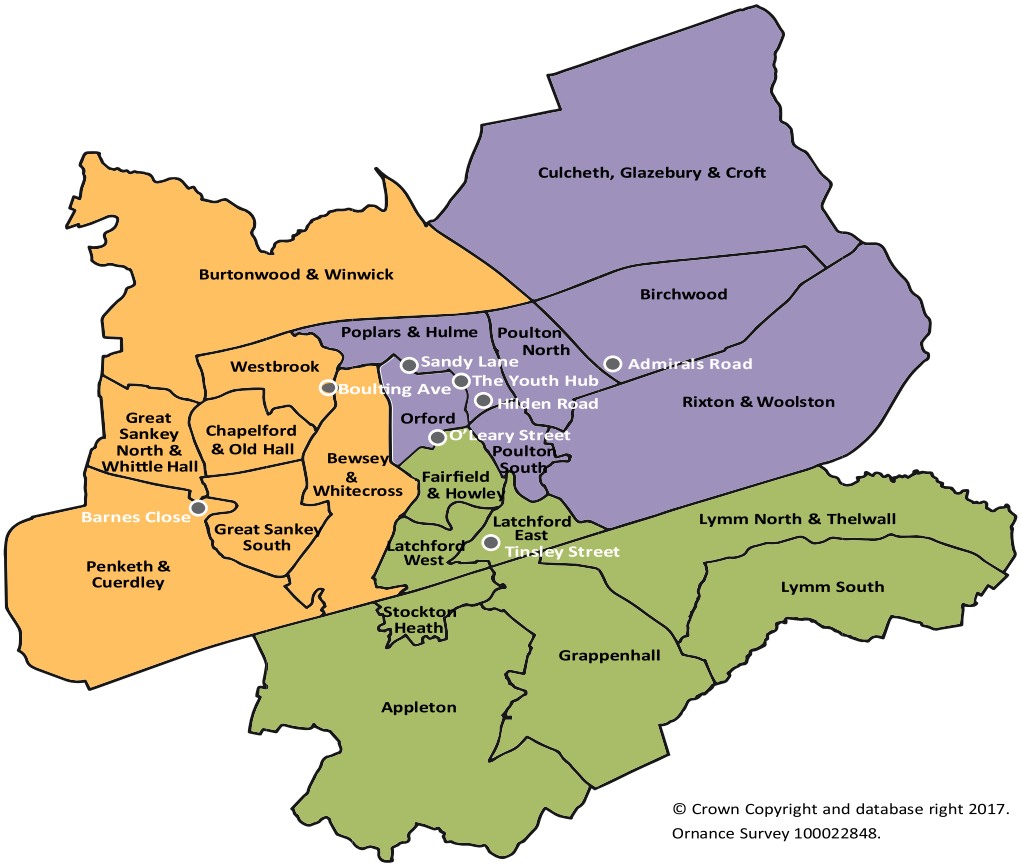
Warrington Borough Council's Early Help teams provide support to children, young people and their families as soon as difficulties start to emerge. The Early Help teams work with families and professionals to offer a range of support services:

- Family Hubs
- Early Years Education and Childcare
- Support for Children (0-4) with Special Educational Needs and Disabilities (SEND)
- Family Support Services
- Children with Disabilities (CwD) Hub
- Parenting Team
- Reducing Parental Conflict (RPC offer)
- Domestic Abuse Hub
- Targeted Youth Service
- Young Peoples Public Health Team
- Restore Team
- Early Help Support Team
- Play and Sensory Centre

Locality Teams

There are three locality teams within Warrington (see map). Each locality team is made up of staff from different professional backgrounds including early years, family hubs, family support, youth services, parenting and other specialist services.

Locality teams work with other partner agencies such as schools, health, police, community safety team, housing providers, probation and substance misuse providers to support children and families.



© Crown Copyright and database right 2017.
Ornance Survey 100022848.

Early Help Assessment

Early Help Assessment (EHA) is the strength-based tool used to identify and assess needs in families and can be used by any professional working with a child, young person and family in Warrington. The assessment is completed in partnership with the whole family and a range of partner agencies in order to create a package of support that best meets the needs of the whole family. The Early Help Assessment monitors the child & families' journey and evidences outcomes to ensure that services are making a difference to families and to improve services for the future. The EHA is based upon the strengths of the family.

Family Hubs

There are seven Family Hubs (formerly called Children's Centres) in Warrington which offer a variety of integrated health, wellbeing, universal and targeted support and early learning activities for children, young people and their families. Family Hubs are a one-stop shop for services for children and families of all ages, with a focus on conception to age five, helping every child achieve the Best Start in Life.

Family Hubs:

- Bring services together to improve **access**
- Improve the **connections** between families, professionals and services
- Put **relationships** at the heart of family support

FAMILY HUB
Putting families at the centre

Family Hubs ensure that local families can access the right support, at the right time, in the right place, with the right people.

Services and activities vary depending on local need, but may include:

- Antenatal care with a Midwife
- Advice clinics and development reviews with a Health Visitor
- Play and learning groups with a Family Hub Practitioner
- Infant feeding support
- Support with finance, employment, or housing
- Support for children with special educational needs and disabilities (SEND)
- Parenting courses and drop-ins

Warrington's Family Hubs are in three locality areas:

East Locality Family Hubs
Sandy Lane Family Hub, Sandy Lane, Orford, WA2 9HY - **01925 443 444 (option 1)**
Hilden Road Family Hub, Hilden Road, Padgate, WA2 0JP - **01925 443 444 (option 1)**
Admirals Road Family Hub, Admirals Road, Birchwood, WA3 6QG - **01925 443 444 (option 1)**

South Locality Family Hubs
Tinsley Street Family Hub, Tinsley Street, Latchford, WA4 1RE **- 01925 443 444 (option 2)**
O'Leary Street Family Hub, O'Leary Street, Orford, WA2 7RQ - **01925 443 444 (option 2)**

West Locality Family Hubs
Boulting Avenue Family Hub, Boulting Avenue, Dallam, WA5 0JG - **01925 443 444 (option 3)**
Barnes Close Family Hub, Barnes Close, Great Sankey, WA5 1SB -**01925 443 444 (option 3)**

For more information please visit Warrington Family Hubs

WARRINGTON
Borough Council

Early Years Education & Childcare

In Warrington, there are a range of settings that provide education and learning in the early years (0-4). This includes playgroups, day nurseries, childminders and private nursery schools all of which can increase a child's social skills and enable learning through play.

To help parents and carers to take up these early learning opportunities for their children, they can access:

30 hours of childcare
For children aged 9 months to 4 years, eligible families can access a funded place with any Ofsted register childcare provider. Eligible working families can apply for 30 hours of childcare to use from the term after their child turns 9 months until they reach school age. For the 3- and 4-year-old children this is 15 hours that are taken on top of the universal 15-hour entitlement. Parents apply to HMRC the term prior to the one they wish the funding to start from.

Universal 15 hours
This is a universal offer available to all 3- and 4-year-olds, no application is necessary. Children can access up to 15 hours of funded childcare with any Ofsted register childcare provider.

Funded childcare for 2-year-olds receiving additional government support
This is a targeted offer, mainly with low-income families although it may include some vulnerable 2-year-olds too. Asylum seeking and BNO families can also apply if they meet an alternative qualifying criterion.

All funded hours are for 38 weeks of the year. Some providers allow families to access the entitlements stretched the hours; this means fewer number of funded hours a week over more weeks of the year. You can often use the above entitlements alongside one of the government childcare costs offers, Tax-Free childcare and Universal Credit Childcare support.

The council's Early Years team provides advice, guidance and support to practitioners, parents and carers on the many issues surrounding childcare and early years across Warrington.

Find out more about early education funding and the available childcare support at Best Start In Life

The team consists of:

Early Years Lead and the Early Years Quality Support Officer who manage the delivery of the Early Years Foundation Stage (EYFS) support to childcare providers and promote high quality provision across the borough by supporting providers with their quality, business and training needs.

Early Years Childcare Development Officers who support childminders and out of school providers, as well as providing a comprehensive professional development programme for the early year's workforce.

Support for children (0-4) with special educational needs and disabilities

This Early Help service is available to children, young people and their families throughout Warrington. **SEND** support includes advocacy and specialist advice and activities to support children and young people to achieve their individual learning goals and to promote inclusive access to services.

The SEND Outreach Team supports childminders, day nurseries, preschools and maintained nurseries with advice and guidance if they have children with SEND attending their setting.

The Early Years SEND Support Team (previously known as Portage) offers a home visiting service and specific group sessions for pre-school children (under the age of 5) with special educational needs or a disability. The service includes:

- Support to develop play, communication, relationships and learning for young children within the family.
- Support to enable the child and family's participation and inclusion in the community.
- Work with parents, enabling them to take the lead role in their child's development.
- Helping parents to identify what is important to them and their child, planning goals for learning and participation.

Family Support Service

Family support is delivered by a dedicated team of skilled and experienced workers. They support families at an early stage to improve and support the life chances of children, young people and the family as a whole.

The aim of the Family Support Team is to work alongside the family, with other agencies who are already working with them or who may become involved in the future. Together, we will work to make positive changes and improve family life.

Family Support teams work with families experiencing a range of challenges such as debt, housing issues, domestic violence, poor mental or emotional health, substance misuse, anti-social behaviour and neglect, through home visiting and assessment of needs.

The ethos of Early Help is to support families at the earliest opportunity to enable them to develop and grow independently, with the right support at the right time by the right professional.

A key aspect of the targeted help provided to families includes:

- Support to families with children aged 0-19/25 years old with complex and multiple needs.
- Complete strength-based assessments to support the whole family.
- Acting as lead professional for the family, helping the family to access support and work with other services to make changes.
- Provide parenting advice and working with the family to improve the confidence and self-esteem of children, young people and parents/carers.
- Being a positive role model and advocate for children and young people.
- Listening to the views of families and their children to provide support.
- Ensuring that the childs voice is heard and acted upon, using age appropriate communication methods suitable for the child.
- Direct work with children
- Hold and chair Team Around the Family (TAF) meetings.
- Multi-agency working in order to achieve the best outcomes for the children/young people.

Children with Disabilities (CwD) Hub

The CwD Hub is based at the Play and Sensory centre and is made up of a CwD lead, Team Manager, two CwD Social workers and seven SEND Family Support Workers. We are the team that are responsible for supporting children and their families, when the overarching need is the child/young person's additional needs. We support young people right through to the transition to adulthood.

In summary, we are able to

- Complete Early Help Assessments and Think Family Assessments with robust support plans.
- Complete Short Breaks Allocation Tools to explore the option of short breaks support.
- Review any current packages of support through short breaks/direct payments.
- Attend Short Breaks panel.
- Hold and chair Child in Need (CIN) and Team Around the Family (TAF) meetings.
- Multi-agency working in order to achieve the best outcomes for the children/young people.
- Connect families to appropriate support services, organisations and SEND activities.
- Whole family working.
- Complete Preparation for Adulthood referrals.
- Explore whether court of protection (COP) or deprivation of liberty (DOL) is appropriate.
- Explore whether the child or young person would benefit from a Continuing Health Care referral.

Our support is not limited to the above.

How do we differ to Locality Family Support Teams?

- The CwD Social Workers will support children who need assessment for Continuing Health Care and/or overnight support.
- The CwD Family Support Workers support families who need Direct Payment Only – this is when the only identified need is support in relation to Direct Payments/ Short Break Support.
- The CwD Family Support Workers support families who need Direct Payment Plus – this is when there are wider support needs for the family where the disability of the child is the main presenting need. This is in addition to Direct Payment / Short Break Support. Direct Payment Plus families can also be allocated to the Family Support Locality teams when the main presenting need is not the child's disability.
- We support families where the overarching identified need is the child/young person's disability.
- We will review Direct Payment Only cases every 12 months in line with the Annual Review. This does not require a new referral Multi-Agency Request for Services (MARS).

Parenting Team

Within Warrington we offer evidence-based parenting programmes which can form part of wider Early Help Support. The programmes are delivered across Warrington by skilled and experienced accredited facilitators. We deliver a wide menu of parenting programmes depending on the age of the children, family needs, circumstances and desired outcomes.

Parenting programmes aim to help parents provide the best possible environment in which their children can develop socially, emotionally and reach their full potential. They aim to promote well-being and resilience by supporting families to build good attachment in infancy and beyond and reduce the likelihood of problems arising, whilst improving overall parenting.

Our programmes typically range from 8 to 12 weeks and consist of a group session for 2 hours per week alongside home tasks where parent/carers can have a go at the strategies discussed that week.

Examples of current courses offered are:

Welcome to the world - suitable for expectant parents, anything from 18 weeks of pregnancy. Topics include empathy and loving attentiveness, infant brain development, healthy eating choices, breast feeding, infant care, managing stress and difficult feelings, promoting self-esteem and confidence, and the couple relationship. This programme is 8 weeks, we also have a 5 week version.

Flourishing Foundations is a 4-week parenting support programme for families with children aged 2–4, offering coaching and role-modelling strategies that emphasise parents as primary teachers, support early communication, help children understand and manage emotions, encourage positive social interactions, and reduce undesired behaviours.

The Incredible Years - suitable for parents of children aged 2-8 years. Adaptable strategies for all children but meets NICE guidelines for ADHD treatment, strategies also adaptable to support children with other neurodiversity needs. Focusing on supporting children to develop prosocial skills, emotional regulation skills, effective limit setting and managing difficult behaviours.

The Nurture Programme - suitable for parents of children aged 5-10 years focusing on children's behavioural and emotional difficulties self-awareness, empathy, appropriate expectations and positive discipline.

Parents Plus Adolescent Programme - suitable for parents of young people aged 11-16 years. Focusing on understanding teenage brain development, building and maintaining positive relationships with your teen, positive discipline strategies, drug, alcohol, sexual health and technology information.

After the parent/carer is referred into the service they will be contacted informing them of which programme would best suit them as a family. Due to the length of our programme, there is generally a termly wait for the next one to start.

Reducing Parental Conflict

We understand that life can be a struggle, one day everything is going smoothly, the next everything is up in the air. Conflict between partners is part of that everyday struggle.

There are a lot of reasons why we argue with our partner. Whether it is something small or something major, this can influence our mood and behaviours, which impacts on the children. Even sulking and not speaking to each other can have a negative effect on the children.

Some level of arguing and conflict between parents is a normal part of everyday life. However, there is strong evidence to show how inter-parental conflict that is **frequent, intense and poorly resolved** can have a significant negative impact on children's mental health and long-term life chances.

Parental conflict (whether parents are together or separated) places children at risk of poor social, emotional, and educational outcomes.

Improvement can be achieved through early intervention.

Early intervention to support co-parenting couples to resolve conflict constructively has the greatest opportunity for successful outcomes.

The Early Help team have the knowledge and experience to work with families to help them to resolve their conflict, whether they are still together or separated.

There are workshops, programmes and even 1-1 interventions that can be delivered to local families.

- Relationship toolkit interventions.
- Parenting co-operatively after separation programme
- Stronger together programme
- Healthy relationship workshops
- How conflict and abuse effects children and parenting styles session

The Reducing Parental Conflict Co-ordinator is working closely with Warrington Council partners including our schools to train all staff around parental conflict and the effects it has on children, promoting a joined-up, co-ordinated response.

Domestic Abuse Hub

The Domestic Abuse (DA) Hub service is confidential and available to anyone across Warrington Borough Council. We work on a consent framework and only share information on a need-to-know basis.

The DA Hub support offer.

- Independent Domestic Violence Advocacy service (IDVA)
- Domestic Abuse Outreach Service
- Young Person Advocacy Service
- Child to Parent Abuse Service
- Multi-agency and Single agency training

The IDVA service support victims over the age of 16 and their families who are experiencing domestic abuse and have been assessed as high risk of serious harm and homicide and medium risk victims.

We provide support and advice on:

- Personal safety and developing bespoke safety plans
- Help in accessing legal advice and protective orders such as injunctions and non-molestations orders
- Attending courts and making police complaints
- Finding emergency accommodation and applying for and re-housing
- Support in accessing wider services

Within our team, we have IDVA's who specialise in a diverse range of need. We have a LGBTQ+ & Men's IDVA, IDVAs who are language specific (Polish and Urdu), IDVAs that have a thematic lead in Honour Based Abuse, Mental Health, Economic Abuse, elder abuse, and addiction.

The DA Outreach Service provides support and delivers DA group awareness programmes across the borough, to families living in our dispersed accommodation across Warrington, and those in sanctuary accommodation.

The Young Persons Advocacy Service support young people from the age of 11- 17 at all risk levels, providing emotional and practical support to young people who are either experiencing abuse from their own intimate relationship or impacted by parental/family abuse.

The Child to Parent Abuse service is a new service offer that will deliver support to parents/carers/guardians experiencing abuse by their children or those whom they have a caring responsibility towards. It will also deliver 1:1 support and group support to young people who are using harmful behaviours and encourage them to adopt healthy behaviours.

The DA Hub co-delivers the monthly DA Basic awareness training for Warrington Safeguarding Partnership and provides training to single agencies in completing the National Domestic Abuse Stalking and Harassment risk assessment tool known as DASH and provide support and guidance to agencies in developing DA pathways.

The Hub accepts self-referrals, agencies referring into the Hub are required to complete a referral form and a DASH.

For general enquiries, please email: IDVA@warrington.gov.uk

WARRINGTON
Borough Council

Targeted Youth Service

Youth work is a distinct informal educational process using Personal, Social and Emotional learning and provides a safe space for young people to learn about themselves and how they fit into the world. This strength-based support enables young people to explore their values, beliefs and ideas and helps them to develop their voice and place in society. This is achieved through providing opportunities for young people to develop and learn new skills, knowledge and attitudes so that they can make informed decisions.

Our Targeted Youth Work Offer supports young people to do this through:

- **Being heard**
- **Being healthy**
- **Staying safe**

Service delivery and offer

MYP (Member of Youth Parliament supported by the Government and led by the British Youth Council)

IMPACT North/South - Warrington's Youth Council that links into Regional and National Networks.

Detached Youth work offer – street-based work, youth workers on foot, bike or mobile youth base working with young people, spaces and places of concern.

EMPOWER Group - Provides a safe space for you people who identify as Black, Asian and minority ethnic

TAGS (17-25) - Tags provides a safe space for LGBTQ+ young people to meet, socialise, access support, and develop skills and confidence.

Youth TAGS (11-16) - Tags provides a safe space for LGBTQ+ young people to meet, socialise, access support, and develop skills and confidence

Wednesdays at The Youth Hub – safe space for local young people (universal offer)

ROAR – An open social programme for young women aged 13plus focusing on young women's empowerment

One to one targeted support – Qualified Professional Youth Workers deliver bespoke person-centred interventions over an agreed period of time using a variety of evidence-based tools and resources

Whole Family Working – when a young person identifies this in their assessment.

Digital Youth Group - a youth-led digital development project where young people get to take the lead.

Young Peoples Public Health Team

"Get2Know" Young Peoples Public Health Team

Who we are

Public Health Warrington, commissions Warrington Borough Councils, Early Help, Targeted Youth Service to deliver their agenda regarding Young People's Health and Wellbeing. Our team along with other specialist services, provide support, information, and guidance to young people across the borough. Our service aim is to support young people to make sense of the world they live in, and to understand risks and the potential impact those risks have on their health and future outcomes.

What we do

We offer support to schools, colleges, and other young people's providers. We can deliver whole class workshops, group workshops or come along and provide engaging activities during sessions. We operate inside and outside of school times and can use resources such as our Mobile Youth Base to deliver programmes of work out in the wider Community and Schools.

Our Qualifications

The Young Peoples Public Health Team is made up of professionally qualified Youth Workers and Specialist Youth Practitioners, who are experienced and qualified to deliver in various health related issue-based topics (Drugs/Sexual Health/Harm outside the Home). The team are also Award in Education Certified and experienced in delivering Personal Social Education. We use active learning approaches to deliver clear and assessed outcomes.

Our High School PSHE offer

The Young Peoples Public Health Team (Get 2 Know!) compliments your whole school approach by providing active learning opportunities *for year 8 and above*.

- Drugs & Substances Awareness
- Alcohol Awareness
- Smoking, Tobacco and Vaping Awareness
- Gaming & Gambling
- Online Safety
- Relationships and Sexploitation
- Living in the Wider World

For further information and best support discussions for Secondary School and Community Youth Group bookings please contact: youngpeoplespublichealth@warrington.gov.uk

We also have a Primary School offer - Would You Risk It?

In partnership with Warrington Borough Council's, Community Safety Team, we provide a workshop linked to Risk Taking outside of the Home. This workshop aims to inform the younger audience of potential influences and pressures as they transition to secondary school.

Primary School Would You Risk workshop information and bookings can be made by contacting The Community Safety Team communitysafetywbc@warrington.gov.uk

WARRINGTON
Borough Council

Restore Team

Restore is a targeted Early Help offer which provides an intense intervention programme of therapeutic, practical, and behavioural support through an integrated model for expectant parents.

The model works on the principle that we start working with expectant parents prior to 20 weeks gestation, where high risk of removal has been identified. Providing opportunities at the earliest point possible within the pregnancy allows enough time for the expectant parent to engage, be assessed and supported with identified needs.

Restore aims to support expectant parents at the earliest opportunity to encourage and sustain positive changes for the best outcomes for their unborn child.

What support parents receive?

- Expectations and impact of parenthood
- Impact of lifestyle on child development—theraplay, pre-natal bonding sessions
- Positive relationship work
- Future aspirations for self (and child)
- Contraception support
- Engagement with other support services to promote change
- Understanding the Pre-Birth Assessment
- Family support accessible until the child's 5th birthday
- Advocacy
- Evidence based parenting programmes
- Graded Care Profile Antenatal (GCP2A)

What are the criteria areas?

- Pregnancy pre 20 weeks gestation
- Children previously removed from parents' care
- Parents who haven't had a child removed from their care, where there are high risk indicators e.g. significant poor mental health, addiction, significant history of domestic abuse
- Fathers who may have had children removed from their care with previous partner and are now expecting a child with a new partner (who may or may not have had previous children removed).

Early Help Support Team

The Early Help Support Team is a central team within The Early Help Division that supports Warrington Borough Council staff and our partners in the Early Help Assessment journey.

The team is made up of Early Help Data officers, who will answer general telephone or email queries from families or partners and connect them to the right Early Help service.

We have a team of Partnership Link Workers (PLWs) who support partners with the Early Help process and paperwork such as Early Help Assessments, review documents and closures.

Some of our partners include – Schools, Health, Early Years settings and Housing.

The PLW does not case hold and will not directly work with the family, they will support and assist our partners with Early Help processes.

Examples of support offered by a PLW:

- Model whole family working to partners and direct them in methods to engage families, manage multiple and complex needs and support multi-agency coordinated support.
- Support partners in the continued implementation of the Early Help Assessment and supporting documents.
- Chair Team Around the Family (TAF) meetings and model the behaviours required so practitioners can then take on this role confidently and competently.
- Provide bespoke training for teams/settings on The Early Help Assessment Journey.
- Ensure that the child and family's voice and experience of services helps to inform any assessment, support and intervention relating to them or their family.
- Lead and support partners to embed systemic and trauma informed practice when working with families.
- Model family engagement methods to partners to ensure that the service is accessible and supportive to children, young people and families.
- Support partners to Identify, promote and provide high quality preventative services enabling children, young people and families to meet their potential and improve outcomes.
- Provide advice and guidance to partners to establish identified needs and signposting to appropriate services.

Play and Sensory Centre

Warrington Play and Sensory Centre is a purpose-built activity centre primarily for disabled children and adults or those with special needs, based in Woolston. There are also sessions available for all children despite if they have a disability.

Our facilities have been planned carefully and are fully accessible to ensure that your time with us is as enjoyable as possible.

The centre has a number of different areas where you can relax or play. Our facilities have been planned carefully and are fully accessible including an accessible disabled toilet with height adjustable changing bed and hoist. Large soft play structure with a fun sea theme. Highlights include the large soft slide, dizzy disc and ball pool. More room than usual in the structure to allow parents/carers to provide support to users as they make their way round. A low-level soft play area which includes a low-level trampet, swing, building den area and interactivity. A calm sensory environment, which includes waterbed, bubble tube, fibre optic curtain, interactive light panel, ball pool and light projection. An overhead hoist is available.

The Play and Sensory Centre staff team have a knowledge of information and resources to point you in the right direction alongside Early Help SEND Family Support Team being based at the centre. Enjoy your stay with a snack, hot food and hot or cold drink in our café area.

To make sure everyone gets the most fun out of their visit we offer separate sessions for different age groups. Sessions are also available for groups, schools and parties. Our opening times do vary. Up to date information on planning your visit, session times, prices and membership is available on our website. Find the session that suits you and book via session bookings.

Web page
Warrington Play and Sensory Centre | warrington.gov.uk

Facebook
Warrington Play & Sensory Centre

Email
sensorycentre@warrington.gov.uk

WARRINGTON
Borough Council

Reforms & National Programmes

The Early Help Division continues to lead on 4 National programmes that support and complement the work with children, young people and families across Warrington. The connectivity in the below 4 programmes are crucial in getting better outcomes at the earliest opportunity for all children and families.

Best Start in Life / Family Hubs Programme (Updated National Programme)

The Best Start in Life and Family Hubs programme is a key national initiative jointly led by the Department for Education and the Department of Health and Social Care. In 2025, the Government published the Giving Every Child the Best Start in Life strategy, committing to rolling out Family Hubs to every local authority by April 2026 and introducing national targets to increase the number of children achieving a Good Level of Development (GLD) by 2028. From 2026, the programme will transition into the national Best Start Family Hubs model, backed by significant investment and bringing together early years, health and community services to create an integrated support offer for families with children aged 0–19 (or up to 25 with SEND), with a focus on conception to age 2. These developments represent a strengthened national commitment to improving early childhood outcomes and ensuring families can access joined up, accessible support within their local communities.

For more information visit Best Start in Life

Holiday Activities and Food (HAF) Programme

The Holiday Activities and Food (HAF) Programme is a national initiative funded by the Department for Education to support children from low income families during school holidays. Children can access nutritious meals, physical activities and wellbeing enrichment during Easter, Summer and Christmas holiday periods. In August 2025, the government announced a commitment to secure funding for the HAF programme until 2029, which includes capacity funding to align with other programmes that support families with the costs of school-age childcare, such as free breakfast clubs. This extended funding settlement enables local areas to plan a sustainable local holiday offer for eligible children on benefit related free school meals, and other vulnerable children who may benefit from accessing HAF provision.

Reforms & National Programmes

National Wraparound Programme (School-Age Childcare)

- By September 2026, all primary-aged children should be able to access childcare 8am–6pm during term time.
- Local authorities receive start-up funding from 2024 to 2026 to create or expand places, extend hours, and ensure sustainable provision.
- Over 105,000 wraparound places were created nationally by November 2025, with continued expansion planned.

Early Years Reforms & School-Age Childcare (2024–2026)

The government's childcare reforms expand funded early years entitlements and introduce a universal wraparound childcare offer to support working families.

Early Years Reforms

- Funded childcare expanded in phases through 2024–2025, reaching 30 hours for eligible working parents of children aged 9 months to 3 years from September 2025.
- New statutory guidance from April 2026 sets out local authority duties on sufficiency, quality and accessible provision.
- Updates to the EYFS from September 2025 strengthen safeguarding, nutrition, and workforce requirements.

How to refer to Early Help Services

For more information see the links below or call us on 01925 443136.

If you would like to make a referral to any of the services detailed in this leaflet you will be required to complete a Multi-agency request for services (MARS) form. You can refer as a family member or a professional on behalf of a family.

All referrals must have written or verbal consent. This consent will be used to share information about children, young people and family members in order to establish how best to meet the family's needs. All information will be kept in line with the Data Protection Act 1998. Further information can be found at: Data Protection Policy

Obtaining and sharing information with other agencies, professionals and partners is an important part of the assessment process as it gives a fuller picture of the child's, young person's and family's circumstances and needs. In addition, other professionals may be able to offer services and support. We may also share information to assess whether our services are working effectively and to improve our services for the future.

More information can also be found by following the below Facebook pages.

Early Help and SEND Warrington

Warrington Early Years

WARRINGTON
Borough Council