



**Early Years, Early Help and Wellbeing**  
Hackney Service Centre  
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16 February 2024

Dear Parents and Carers,

**Re: Sebright Children's Centre Extended Services**

I'm writing to update you on some of the changes that may affect how you and your family access some of the services provided by the Council's children's centres.

As you know, over the past few months, we have been working on transforming four of Hackney's children's centres - Ann Tayler, Daubeney, Linden, and Woodberry Down - into Children & Family Hubs. Each of these hubs will deliver services within one of four geographical areas in Hackney- which we've called 'neighbourhoods'. These Children & Family Hub neighbourhoods include children's centres, as well as a range of health, community, and library services.

As part of the Children & Family Hub model, we are also introducing a variety of new services to make it easier for families to get the help they need in one place. This includes expanding our services to include expectant parents and families with children and young people up to age 19 (or 25 for those with special educational needs and disabilities). We have already informed our children's centres and partners about a range of new resources and events that are available to families in Hackney, and we expect them to share these with you shortly (if they haven't already).

After careful consideration, Ann Tayler has been designated as the Children & Family Hub in the London Fields and Shoreditch Park neighbourhood. The decision making-process involved analysing data, including factors such as the size of the centre, current attendance levels, and whether there's sufficient space and rooms within the facility to accommodate additional families and services.

Sebright Children's Centre will transition from its previous role as a strategic children's centre in one of the six areas of Hackney (called clusters) to becoming

one of the five satellite centres in its neighbourhood, continuing to deliver services under the coordination of Ann Tayler Children & Family Hub.

I know that some families will be concerned about what this means for them, and are wondering if they will still be able to access some of the services they and their children enjoy, such as stay-and-play sessions.

We are working with the head of centres, including the Blossom Federation, to look at all the existing provision and finalise the offer of services across the new neighbourhoods. The full offer of the Children's & Family Hubs will be launched later this year.

Following the transformation, some services will be provided at the Hubs themselves, as well as in other children's centres, in Youth Hubs, in virtual spaces, in partnership with the voluntary sector, or via home-visits to families.

A five-week staff consultation is taking place with staff at Oldhill, Sebright, Ann Tayler, Daubeney, Linden and Woodberry Down. The staff consultation includes introducing or changing roles, or moving some staff to new locations to support the introduction of more services.

The staff consultation will conclude on the 7th of March.

To ensure that experienced professionals can continue to support the families and children that need them most, the Council has ring fenced vacancies, which only existing staff will apply for, as a result of the broadening of the role of Ann Tayler, Woodberry Down and Linden Children & Family Hub. The Blossom Federation is also looking at offering the staff potentially affected by the changes at Sebright a role at Daubeney. We hope that this will provide the opportunity to retain our valued workforce in Hackney's Children & Family Hubs.

Officers are in discussion with the Blossom Federation to look at how some of the services such as stay and play sessions, childminding group, and infant feeding sessions can continue to be delivered at the site of Sebright Children's Centre, as part of the Council's commitment to support families through the transition.

Once the staff consultation is complete, and the full offer of our network of hubs and centres is finalised, the children's centres will get in touch with families to provide new timetables for their area. Families that currently receive individual support will continue to receive the help of the family support team, so they can access the services they need during the transition.

In the meantime, please visit our website at [bit.ly/children-familyhubs](http://bit.ly/children-familyhubs) or reach out to us via email, at [familyhubs@hackney.gov.uk](mailto:familyhubs@hackney.gov.uk). A map of the new Children & Family Hubs and their satellite centres can be found [here](#).

Warm regards,

A handwritten signature in brown ink, appearing to read 'Sarah Bromfield'.

Sarah Bromfield  
Head of Children's Centres and Early Help Services, Hackney Council

