

Be part of Birmingham Family Hubs' 'Family Voices for Sutton Coldfield'



We want local residents to make sure that Family Hubs are designed to meet the needs of their locality. So we have set up **Family Voices**, which is listening to local needs, particularly in relation to the 'Best Start for Life' first 1001 days of a child's life.

Family Voices is the place where parents and carers work together with local service leads and commissioners to help design and evaluate services. This helps to ensure families are at the centre of service design and delivery across Birmingham.

As part of setting up each Family Hub in the 10 city localities, **Family Voices** has a group in each area which in turn come together to form a city wide Birmingham Family Voices group (sometimes called parent/carers panels). **We want more families to get involved, please see below for how to join.**

The purpose of the Family Voices groups is to:

- Make sure local parents/carers play a key role in designing and continuously improving family services
- Enable the voice of local parents/carers including those whose voices are seldom heard
- Ensure Family Hubs are designed for inclusion and meet the needs of the diverse communities that live in Birmingham

We want to ensure each Family Voices group is representative of a range of parenting scenarios and of Birmingham's diverse communities. We are therefore welcoming families from all walks of life and backgrounds with a particular focus on those who are pregnant/partner of an expectant parent and with children up to age 2.

Express an interest in being part of Birmingham Family Voices

If you would like to become a member and be involved in developing these plans, you can register your interest by emailing us a few details:

- name, gender, telephone number, address and postcode, so we know which area group you would join.
- please tell us why you would like to be a Family Voices member (for example, you would like to have a voice in designing of future services, gain more skills and confidence, get to know more local parents/carers)?

Please email familyhubs@birmingham.gov.uk with the information above.



Family Voices - FAQs



After you apply

When we receive your expression of interest form, a member of the team will contact and invite you to a short meeting in person or online. We'll discuss if being on the group would work for you, find out about the experiences you bring to the group, and address any accessibility needs you have.

Please be aware that submitting an expression of interest does not guarantee you will be selected to be in the group. We will choose participants to make sure that the group is representative of Birmingham's diverse communities and circumstances.

What's involved in being part of Family Voices?

You will help shape how services for families are delivered and be a valued part of Family Hubs' development. You will meet new people in your community and have the opportunity together to build Family Hubs that meet families' needs. You may want to join for your own personal development, or to share your experiences of accessing services for families and how they could be developed.

Family Voices meetings will be agreed at a time and place that works best for the members of the group, likely to be at least every two months for two hours and can be either face to face, online or hybrid to enable participation.

What support will I get to be involved?

We want to enable accessibility as much as possible so we will discuss with you what you need to participate but here are a few examples of what we can offer: creche/childcare for meetings where necessary, travel fares to meetings (by public transport), refreshments in meetings, interpreting, rewards and recognitions (gift vouchers or time credits) and any other accessibility requirement to enable you to fully participate in meetings/trainings.

What happens next after I apply?

When we receive your expression of interest form you will be contacted by a member of the team to invite you to a short meeting in person, or online. We'll discuss if being in the group would work for you, find out about the experiences you bring to the panel, and address any accessibility needs you have.

WANT TO KNOW MORE ABOUT FAMILY HUBS?

www.birmingham.gov.uk/familyhubs

[email:familyhubs@birmingham.gov.uk](mailto:familyhubs@birmingham.gov.uk)