

Brixton Stockwell Better Start Area

Attending our Children's Centres

The Children's Centres in the Brixton Stockwell Better Start Area; Stockwell, Liz Atkinson and Jessop do their utmost to ensure the support services and sessions provided meet the needs of our local community, for families with children 0 - 4 years and those who are expecting a baby/babies. We regularly seek feedback from our service users and use data provided to us by Lambeth to determine our termly delivery. Both targeted and universal support services are delivered as part of our weekly timetable through our better start team and our multi-agency partners.

We ask every family using the children's centres to complete a Lambeth better start registration form and to reregister if anything changes, for example, a new baby, change of address etc. this is so that we have the most up to date details on our system. Attendance is recorded on our system, which allows us to produce data reports of how many families use our children's centres and the individual services provided.

Due to the sizes of the rooms within our centres and the popularity of our play sessions, we may have to cap numbers attending on that day, especially if it is particularly busy. This is ensure the safety of everyone attending.

Our baby play sessions in all of our centres are bookable, and we ask parents/carers to book each week, this is so we can keep these groups to a comfortable number, which fits the individual spaces. If a baby session is fully booked for the coming week, you will be asked if you would like to be put on the list for the following week to secure your attendance for the next week. You may also be asked if you would like to be put on the waiting list for that week's groups and contacted to attend, sometimes last minute, if there is a cancellation.

A majority of our play session are for parents/carers to attend with their child/children. By parents/carers we mean; parents, grandparents, an immediate family member caring for the child/children, foster carers. We ask that paid professional child carers only attend the Friday morning group 'Natural Thinkers' at Liz Atkinson Children's Centre with the children that they are looking after. This group is open to all and is for children from 1 year upwards, it is an outdoor session where we are able to make use of our wonderful and very large garden space.

Parents/carers booking on to courses delivered at the centres, are put on to an expression of interest list (your space at this point is not confirmed). You will be asked at this point if you need a space/s in the crèche. The centre will contact you in due course to confirm your space on the course and in the crèche (if needed) this is due to the ratio requirement for crèche and us having to limit the numbers of children attending depending on their age.

We reserve the right to decline admittance to one of our sessions for the following reasons;

- The session has become very busy and further people attending would cause a health and safety issue for everyone.
- Your child is not the correct age for the session you want to attend.
- Your child is clearly unwell and attending the session could put other children at risk.
- You are a paid professional child carer wanting to attend one of our parent/carer sessions.
- You have not been contacted by the centre to confirm your space on a course, and you are on the expression of interest list.