



# South East

Sector Led Improvement

FAMILY HUBS  
LED BY ISLE OF WIGHT COUNCIL

## **Newsletter issue 4 – 18<sup>th</sup> March 2022**

*Hello and welcome to the fourth newsletter for the South East region, focusing on the development of the Family Hub work.*

### **South East Communities of Practice – we need you!**

As you will have seen in my recent email to you all, Julie and I have now confirmed the dates and themes for the first 5 Communities of Practice workshops, which are as follows:

Theme of Workshop	Date	Time
1. Coproduction	Tuesday 22 <sup>nd</sup> March	9.30-11.30am
2. Digital offer	Tuesday 3 <sup>rd</sup> May	9.30-11.30am
3. SEND	Tuesday 14 <sup>th</sup> June	9.30-11.30am
4. Governance & Commissioning	Tuesday 19 <sup>th</sup> July	9.30-11.30am
5. Youth	Tuesday 13 <sup>th</sup> September	9.30-11.30am

Please do send us your ideas of any items you would like to be included within the workshops and if you would like to share your own LA's Family Hub journey, we would love to hear from you. You should have received the invites for all of the above workshops so please do let us know if you haven't.

If you have colleagues who would like to be a part of the workshops, please ask them to get in touch with Carly, who can add their email to the distribution list. We hope to try different ways of engaging with you to share good practice and find ways to overcome some of the obstacles too.

A community of practice can work in a variety of ways, but an effective CoP will always engage participants in developing their own thinking alongside those with a shared interest. We want to encourage those working on Family Hub development in the South East to build knowledge; share best practice; explore the evidence base behind established programmes to support families; and promote innovative ideas that could start to make a difference. We will start with a morning workshop but hope our CoPs will continue to communicate regularly over the coming months.

### **Family Hub blog:**

Do you have something on your mind about Family Hubs? Are you playing with ideas in your head about how to improve services for families in your area? Do you have a burning issue that might challenge other people's thinking? We would really like to encourage you to contribute a short blog of between 100-300 words that might help to shape our thinking about Family Hubs and how to implement them in the South East. Each blog will have its author's name, so please check your team are okay with what you are writing before you send it to us. We may edit your words slightly but will run any changes past you first.

### **Blog feedback:**

We were delighted to receive feedback about the blog in the last newsletter, thank you to those who took the time to let us know. We were so pleased to hear that the first blog 'concept or concrete' sparked some reflections...

*"I thought the person who wrote the blog in the newsletter was spot on, it is exactly the conversations we are having as an LA. We do not want the buildings to be spaces from where services deliver their work and then still signpost families back to Children/Family Centre staff, which is what often happened previously. I believe that integration across the partners is absolutely key - big culture changes are required to make this happen".*

### **National Centre for Family Hubs (NCFH) resources:**

The NCFH website is available to support you to look at ways in which you can develop a Family Hub model in your authority. You can find the website by going to [www.nationalcentreforfamilyhubs.org.uk](http://www.nationalcentreforfamilyhubs.org.uk)

If you haven't already signed up for NCFH newsletters, please click on the link in the top bar of this webpage: [www.nationalcentreforfamilyhubs.org.uk/contact-us/](http://www.nationalcentreforfamilyhubs.org.uk/contact-us/) and then look out for a confirmation email, which you will need to accept.

As well as the implementation toolkit, resource library and regular events and webinars, NCFH can also provide bespoke consultation packages to support you to develop Family Hubs. You can email Julie at [julie.greer@annafreud.org](mailto:julie.greer@annafreud.org), or [NCFHenquiries@annafreud.org](mailto:NCFHenquiries@annafreud.org) if you would like a particular focus on training, or would like to share good practice in your area.

### **NCFH SEND update:**

The National Centre for Family Hubs are currently in the process of writing a new module for the family hub implementation toolkit relating to special educational needs and disabilities (SEND). The module will support local authorities and their stakeholders to keep the needs of families, who have one or more children with SEND, at the heart of their planning and development of Family Hubs. The module is being written in co-production with parents, carers and young people with expertise from experience and those who have expertise by profession, from education and health. The draft module will also be shared with a wider range of people and

professions from across the country before it is ready to be launched at the webinar on 29<sup>th</sup> March – just follow the [link](#).

If you are proud of your SEND practice and how it is integrated into your Family Hub model, please email [julie.greer@annafreud.org](mailto:julie.greer@annafreud.org)

**Upcoming NCFH training:**

How Family Hubs can improve the lives of CYP with SEND and those around them	29 <sup>th</sup> March
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If you would like to find out more or book a place, please go to;  
[www.annafreud.org/training/national-centre-for-family-hubs/](http://www.annafreud.org/training/national-centre-for-family-hubs/)

We also wanted to remind you that all webinars are recorded, so you can access previous ones and those that you can't attend by going to;

[Previous events and training - National Centre for Family Hubs](#)

**Ideas welcome**

Please do contact us if you have anything you would like to be added to the forthcoming newsletters, we would be happy to include it for you.

Thank you to those of you who have taken the time to provide feedback and suggestions already, we are working on providing these for you.

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