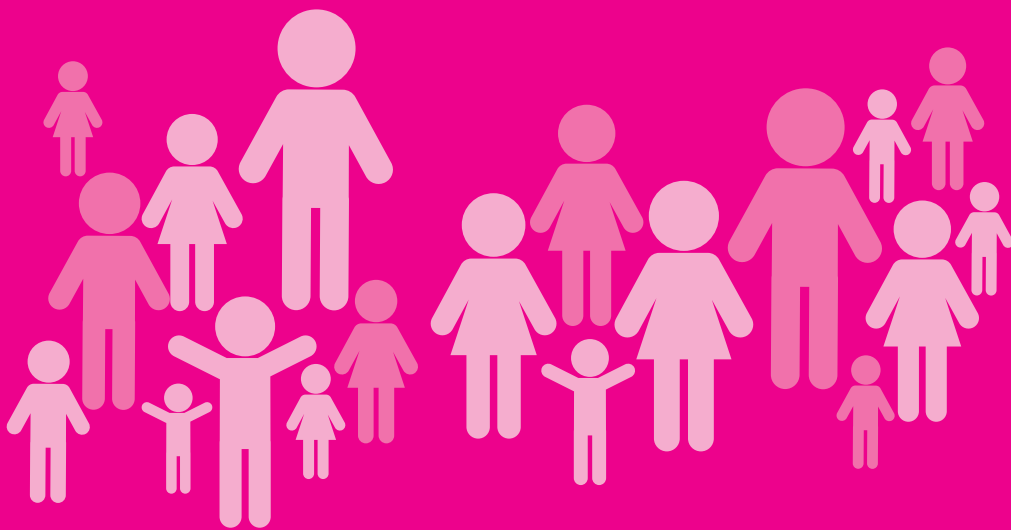


Early Support Partnership



Kirklees Safeguarding Children Partnership



Families Together

In 2019, National Government made a manifesto commitment to champion Family Hubs. To make effective, integrated early help accessible to families based around 3 key principles - relationships, connections, and access.

'Family hubs are a way of joining up locally to improve access to services and the connections between families, professionals, services, and providers. They put relationships at the heart of family help. Family hubs can have physical and virtual offers, with services for families with children of all ages, and a great start for life offer at their core.'

In Kirklees, the Family Hub model is called Families Together:

'A place based integrated Early Support offer for Children, Young People and Families', and aims to deliver the approach outlined in the Kirklees 'Early Support Partnership Strategy' 2018

'Our approach is based on building communities, developing resilience, and establishing networks. As well as developing a place-based offer around 4 geographical and diverse areas, we recognise that some services work best across the authority. We want to develop a unifying but not uniform offer, reflecting the needs and strengths of young people, families, and communities.'

The geographical areas are:

Huddersfield (Chestnut Children's Centre)
Dewsbury and Mirfield (Dewsbury Moor Children's centre)
Kirklees Rural (Slaithwaite Town Hall)
Batley and Spennings (Birstall & Birkenshaw Children's Centre)

For more information contact:

EarlySupport@kirklees.gov.uk

01484 456823

Kirklees Safeguarding Children Partnership (KSCP)

The KSCP provides the framework for ensuring that effective services are provided with partner agencies, including Kirklees Council, health organisations, West Yorkshire Police, West Yorkshire Probation, and the voluntary/community sector, to safeguard and promote the welfare of children in Kirklees, including protection from harm.

This includes:

- Developing and implementing inter-agency policies and procedures
- Promoting effective partnership working
- Undertaking reviews and audits to scrutinise and challenge work undertaken to safeguard children and promote their welfare
- Provision of a range of training opportunities for all levels of staff and volunteers
- Raising awareness of safeguarding within the wider community

Board members are senior representatives of the main agencies which have a responsibility to safeguard children.

Early Support Paperwork is held on the KSCP website and can be found here:

<https://www.kirkleessafeguardingchildren.co.uk/safeguarding-2/safeguarding-processes-and-systems/early-support/>

Reducing Parental Conflict – Our 7-minute guide to The Importance of Health Relationships can be found here:

[Reducing Parental Conflict - KSCP \(kirkleessafeguardingchildren.co.uk\)](https://www.kirkleessafeguardingchildren.co.uk/reducing-parental-conflict/)

Supporting Families Programme

The early help system is a network of services working together to improve outcomes for families.

Our headline family outcomes:

- Getting a good education
- Good early years development
- Improved physical and mental health
- Promoting recovery and reducing harm from substance use
- Improved family relationships
- Children safe from abuse and exploitation
- Crime prevention and tackling crime
- Safe from domestic abuse
- Secure housing
- Financial stability

The Kirklees Stronger Families (nationally Supporting Families) programme is to ensure that early help interventions and services offer a whole family response to identified family need. The whole family approach is delivered through a whole family assessment (early support assessment), a coordinated (TAF) plan with a nominated Lead Practitioner. Any families with identified multiple needs should be worked with using the whole family approach and nominated to the Stronger Families programme. Information and data sharing is key to ensuring that families are supported to make significant and sustained changes during and beyond intervention, preventing re-referrals and avoiding escalation. When we demonstrate the outcomes we achieve with families as a partnership, we are able to drawdown eligible finance from government funders, DLUHC.

For more information contact:

Stronger.Families@kirklees.gov.uk

01484 456823

Family Support

The Family Support service work together with partners to provide a range of services for families with children aged pre-birth to 19 (or 25 if SEND).

We work directly with parents and children through group work or one to one work using relational and evidence-based interventions.

We work closely with partners to promote early identification and assessment of unmet needs and support an early response either through consultation or direct support. Where families are receiving statutory intervention from social care, we provide family support to help de-escalate where appropriate.

Each Team is aligned to the Children and Family areas, and we have a named Team Manager, Team Leader and Early Support Consultant linked to each of the 4 Family Together geographies.

We use the whole family approach to ensure our work compliments any other support being offered to avoid duplication and ensure families are offered a seamless approach to support. We take a restorative and strengths approach that builds resilience and develops capacity across the partnership to offer the right support at the right time.

We encourage partners to undertake the Early Support Assessment at the earliest opportunity with families so unmet needs are identified quickly. This assessment can then be used as a referral into Early Support if needed. We encourage conversations take place prior to undertaking referral to get advice quickly about the services are available and offer advice and support to partners when undertaking the assessment.

[Early Support - The Kirklees Early Support Partnership - KSCP \(kirkleessafeguardingchildren.co.uk\)](http://kirkleessafeguardingchildren.co.uk)

If you are a professional and think a family, child or young person needs support from the Early Support Partnership please return the completed assessment and referral form to:

earlysupportmultiagencypanel@kirklees.gov.uk

Parenting Support

The parenting team offer a range of evidence-based group work programmes to encourage and support families to develop resilience and help them cope with challenges of family life.

All programmes use a restorative approach to allow participants to reflect on their own experiences, values and beliefs and understand how this has impacted on their own parenting styles.

Evidence shows that good quality group work leads to better outcomes for families with improved communication, consistency, behaviour, and efficacy. Families are more likely to move onto other opportunities through the social learning experience if they have attended group work programmes.

The current groupwork offer is:

Liberty (domestic abuse), Step Up, SEN Family Links, Early Parenting, Healthy Lifestyles, Strengthening Families Strengthening Communities.

We can also offer a range of Triple P online programmes to support parents:

Behaviour support 0-12yrs or Teens

Baby- Supporting parents with bonding and attachment with their baby

Fearless - For parents of children/ young people suffering from anxiety)

For more information contact:

info.parentingsupport@kirklees.gov.uk

01484 456823

Family Group Conference (FGC)

A Family Group Conference (FGC) is an independent service that brings family members together to develop a safe plan. The aim of the plan is to identify solutions for the issues that a family is facing.

A Family Group Conference is a process that empowers a family to make safe plans and decisions about their children and young people. The family play a major part in identifying who they feel could make up their support network and the FGC coordinator will support the family in identifying their network.

The whole process is family led and the needs of the children remain at the centre of the FGC. Children and young people will always be invited to attend their FGC.

An FGC can be used when children are at risk of being looked after by the Local Authority, to seek solutions where anti-social behaviour is a concern, improve school attendance, supporting contact between parent and child, or when family relationships breakdown and impacts on the child/children.

In an FGC, the referrer provides information and resources to support and assist the family in developing their own plan. It is the family who have the sole responsibility for making and deciding upon a plan.

To discuss this option or for more information contact:

For more information contact:

EarlySupport@kirklees.gov.uk

01484 456823

Early Support and Inclusion Team

The Early Support and Inclusion Team specialise in providing advice, support and services for children and young people from birth up to the ages of 18 years old with the most complex learning, physical and health needs which impact on day-to-day life.

Early Support is about identifying problems as soon as possible and working with a family to help them to find solutions. It involves services such as health, education and the council working together to help to get the right support at the right time.

Family Support Workers in the Early Support and Inclusion Team carry out Early Support Assessments to provide ongoing care needs. We work with families to agree outcomes which are written into a Short Break Plan, signpost to other services and provide specialist care packages of support.

A Short Breaks Plan and packages of support will be reviewed or reassessed annually unless there is significant change of circumstance or on-going management of care needs. Whenever possible, reviews will coincide with EHC reviews in school/college.

Further information can be accessed on the Children with a Disability page on the Local Offer.

[Children with a Disability Service \(CWD\) | Help for families | Kirklees SEND Local Offer \(kirkleeslocaloffer.org.uk\)](#)

Kirklees Mental Health in Families Team

Mental Health in Families Team bridge the gap between Children's Social Care and Adult Mental Health Services so families where parental mental health is impacting on the family receive the most appropriate support/service.

As a team we analyse the impact of parental mental health on children and families and endeavour to support practitioners across services, to understand the needs of families and how best they can be supported.

We offer case consultation with professionals from both Adult Mental Health and Children and Family Services, with a view to enhancing awareness and understanding of the mental health difficulties experienced by parents and therefore influencing casework.

We embed a restorative approach, using coaching methods to support professionals in their casework. Working in close collaboration with professionals like this allows to understand the mental health needs of the parent, so we can analyse how children are affected and recommend SMART assessments or plans that address risk properly.

We value appropriate early support for parents who have mental health difficulties and share information relevant to the welfare of their children. Our focus is on managing risk, increasing resilience, building strength, and encouraging independence so we can help to reduce the long-term need for services.

Email: MentalHealthinFamilies@kirkless.gov.uk

Connected Persons Team

The Service we offer will be dependent on the arrangements for the child in a person's care. Our team can support carers and children subject to a Special Guardianship or Child Arrangements Order.

What is Connected Carer?

A family and friends or kinship carer is a grandparent, aunt, uncle, brother, sister or family friend who is looking after a child who cannot be cared for by their birth parents.

A Connected Carer will provide a vital role to a child who cannot live with their parents, giving them love, support and a sense of belonging.

What we Offer

A tailored support to meet the individual needs of the families which could include:

- Practical support, i.e. contact arrangements, parenting advice, family mediation and advocacy
- Emotional support for all family members
- Signposting to relevant agencies
- Training opportunities
- Support Groups for carers and children
- Peer support

Carers of children subject to a SGO or CAO are not obliged to take the offer of support if it is not felt to be required. However, carers can self-refer to the Connected Persons Support Team at any time whilst the child is under the age of 18 years.

Email: CPT.Duty@kirklees.gov.uk

Kirklees Community Hubs

Community hubs in Kirklees are fluid geographical areas based around families of school's areas. The purpose of the community hubs is to ensure that children, young people and their families, communities, and services work together to prepare for healthy, successful, independent lives. To build strong resilient communities where people feel valued, respected, involved, and listened to.

There are 17 Community Hubs across Kirklees. The Hubs act as vehicles for a broad range of universal and preventative services to come together at place level.

Each hub has a named leadership and a named Community Co-ordinator. There is also a well-established Kirklees Hub Leaders Network. The Council provides strategic support for the community hubs.

For more information contact:

EarlySupport@kirklees.gov.uk

01484 456823

Early Years Outcomes Team

Early Years Outcomes Team is part of the Localities for Children and Families service. Consultants are deployed into Kirklees Community Hubs and provide support and challenge to childcare and early learning providers. These are known as the private, voluntary, and independent sector (PVI) as children may also take up funded entitlement in mainstream schools.

Kirklees has over 850 providers and almost 60% of preschool children take up their entitlement in the PVI sector. We work with settings to maintain high quality provision and outcomes and have a universal offer of visits, advice, and help. We also have a targeted offer for providers who drop below 'Good or better' when inspected by OFSTED. We are charged with advocating and connecting early years providers to local activity through the hubs. This collaborative, partnership working is essential to workforce development and raising outcomes.

Providers and services have a duty to ensure the least advantaged children are prioritised in all their work. PVI providers are a large part of early childhood services in Kirklees and meet families on a daily basis so we need to ensure that they know about and can signpost parents to Early Support.

For more information contact:

EarlySupport@kirklees.gov.uk

01484 456823

STARs School Transition and Reach Service

STARs is a part of the Early Support Service and is focussed on supporting children and young people to experience successful and sustainable transitions within their learning journey and reduce the risk of disengagement during and after those key transition periods.

We know that the challenges children and young people sometimes face in their homes and communities can affect their learning and this can sometimes significantly add to natural anxieties about a learning transition. We also know that their life chances are improved when they access and engage with high quality education provision on a regular basis.

Working intensively with the young person and their family, our STARs Facilitators develop strong relationships and use a Formulation based approach to make sense of the challenges which may impact on a young person's ability to engage positively in their learning. This restorative approach also identifies strengths of the individual and within the family to help build confidence and help sustain positive changes in future.

STARs is a targeted offer which is focussed on supporting children and young people in specific cohorts. We use key data from a range of partners to identify the priority areas and review this data on an ongoing basis to target our cohorts effectively, our current cohorts are as follows:

- Reducing the risk of future involvement in child exploitation, violence, and gang-related crime, with a focus on the year 6 to year 7 transition
- Families who are now in safe accommodation but have experienced domestic abuse which has impacted on the child's ability to engage positively in learning

For more information, please contact us via STARs@kirklees.gov.uk

Detached Youth

Part of the Early Support Service, our Youth team engage with young people aged 11-19 using a variety of delivery methods to provide them with informal learning and social development opportunities. Our team develop trusting relationships with young people, helping them to navigate the wide range of challenges and opportunities they will experience as they grow into young adults.

Our Detached Youth Work programmes are designed to engage with young people where they choose to meet in their community. As with any youth work provision, the programmes aim to help young people learn from their own experiences, support them to have their voices heard and where necessary and appropriate, seek additional support. Programmes are targeted in order to work with young people most at risk of involvement in crime, anti-social behaviour and exploitation and we use key data and partner information to identify priority areas to deploy the team.

The Youth team is part of a much wider children and young people offer across Kirklees which includes a huge range of voluntary youth, sports and arts provision and we will signpost and encourage young people to access this provision to help further develop their informal learning opportunities.

Our Youth team also develop targeted group work programmes to address specific issues and provide individual support to young people, through established referral routes and a range of projects developed with partners.

We offer professional development opportunities across the Youth team, offering employment opportunities to young people to join our team and learn new skills and gain qualifications through our apprentice scheme.

For more information, please contact us via youthwork@kirklees.gov.uk

Play/Schools Out!

Community based all age play offer

We have an adventure playground facility in Crow Nest Park, Dewsbury that is accessible for all children and families. The adventure playground is supported by a team of play staff who deliver play-based activities throughout the year including weekends. The adventure playground is also available for community groups to use as a space to deliver support with children and families. If you would like any further information regarding the activities at the playground or how to access the space, please contact us at playwork@kirklees.gov.uk

We also support the development of play activities throughout Kirklees, and provide advice, guidance, and support with resources for any groups supporting play. If you would like to contact the team, please do so by contacting us at playwork@kirklees.gov.uk

School's Out!

Community providers deliver a wide range of accessible activities throughout Kirklees with children and families during the School Holidays. We work with the providers to offer funded places for families that are benefits related free school meal eligible, and low cost paid for places for non-eligible families. Most of the activities include a healthy nutritious meal and also support SEND children, together with providing enrichment activities. We also look access to OFSTED registered settings to support children under 8 years. If you would like any further information regarding community-based holiday activities in Kirklees please email the team at HAF@kirklees.gov.uk

Outdoor Learning

The Outdoor Learning team are part of the Early Support Service and provide a huge range of accreditation, activity and leadership programmes all year round, offering fun and challenging outdoor experiences to schools, colleges, youth groups, clubs and charities.

The team deliver a wide range of Duke of Edinburgh's Award programmes which help young people aged 14-24 to gain essential skills for work and life such as communication, team-working, resilience, and confidence as well as developing fitness, learning new skills and contributing to their community. Our Open Award Centres allow young people to access the award and work their way through the Bronze, Silver and Gold Award levels with expeditions and residential running throughout the year.

The team also provides support to schools, colleges, and youth groups to deliver the award within their setting, providing technical expertise to ensure activities are fun, challenging, and safe.

Our Little Deer Wood Activity Centre in Mirfield provides a wide range of exciting land and water-based activities which are accessible to people of all ages, and we pride ourselves on our 'can do' attitude adapting activities so that they are accessible to all, even those with the most complex of needs. All sessions are led by highly qualified and experienced instructors in beautiful woodland surroundings. Leadership programmes are also available to help grow the outdoor learning opportunities for young people in Kirklees and beyond. The facilities at the centre are fantastic and provide opportunities to benefit from the outdoor environment to meet a range of outcomes.

To find out more about either to Duke of Edinburgh's Award or Little Deer Wood, please contact us via email dofe.awards@kirklees.gov.uk or phone 01484 225952.

Community Plus

Community Plus is part of the Council's Early Intervention and Prevention service offer. Our teams are based in each of the four Kirklees localities, with each locality having a team of Community Co-ordinators who work across the areas Community Plus provides a short-term intervention of four to six weeks.

We work alongside people using an asset and strength-based approach. We explore community-based solutions which seek to prevent, reduce and delay dependence and demand on statutory social and health care provision.

Our teams work with organisations and groups to develop local activities and services for the local community as well as peer and neighbourhood support.

Alongside the Primary care networks, we offer a social prescribing response for GP's, to identify and support people who could benefit from a community offer.

We also work closely with all our partners; Children's and Adult Social Care, North Kirklees and Greater Huddersfield clinical commissioning groups, Public Health, Communities service and voluntary community and social enterprise sector.

Community Plus works with all age groups and anyone can make an introduction.

You can make an introduction by speaking directly to the Community Plus team or visit our website <https://www.kirklees.gov.uk/beta/voluntary-andcommunity-support/community-plus.aspx> and complete our online introduction form.

Thriving Kirklees

The innovative partnership brings together five organisations and their 0-19 services to help ensure that all children, young people, and families living in Kirklees will be healthy and resilient.

The partnership's services for children and young people aged 0-19 (up to 25-years old for young people with special needs) and their families include:

- Health visiting and family nurse partnership
- School nursing
- Ask CaMHS
- Child and Adolescent Mental Health Services (CaMHS)
- Children's Emotional Health and Wellbeing Service
- National Child Measurement Programme
- Assessment and diagnosis of autistic spectrum conditions (through referrals made by a Speech and Language Therapist, Paediatrician, or Educational Psychologist)
- Support for children and young people with learning disabilities
- Home-Start Family Support
- Healthy child vitamins.

The Thriving Kirklees partnership is led by Locala, working with:

- South West Yorkshire Partnership Foundation Trust (SWYPT)
- Northorpe Hall Child and Family Trust,
- Home-Start Kirklees,
- Yorkshire Children's Centre

Thriving Kirklees

[0-19 Team \(Health Visiting and School Nursing\)](#)

Our 0-19 team works with children, young people and families in Kirklees supporting you and your child to improve your health and avoid illness.

We provide a series of health support for children and families starting before the birth of your child, through their early years and right up to age 19.

[Home-Start Kirklees](#)

Having young children is an exciting but frequently challenging time for any family. Home-Start is here to help people who need extra help to meet those challenges and are struggling with being a parent.

Home-Start Kirklees offers unique support for parents to help grow their confidence and strengthen relationships with their children. The scheme helps parents to reduce feelings of isolation, become more resilient and cope with the challenges of being a parent.

[Child and Adolescent Mental Health Services \(CAMHS\)](#)

This service offers assessment and interventions for children and young people (including those with learning disabilities) who have persistent and significant difficulties with mental health issues.

The team works hard to build positive relationships with children during such a challenging period in their life. The coping strategies and self-management techniques our team use ensure that children can live life to their full potential.

Thriving Kirklees

[Kooth.com](https://www.kooth.com)

Is an anonymous, online counselling and support service for children and young people, accessible through mobile, tablet and desktop and free at the point of use. It's for 11-19 year olds in Kirklees (up to age 25 for those with additional needs) and is available up to 10 o'clock at night, 365 days a year.

[Assessment and Diagnosis of Autistic Spectrum Conditions](#)

The team has a wealth of experience working with children and young people up to the age of 18 years, who have complex social and communication difficulties. Referrals to the team are made by Speech and Language Therapists, Paediatricians, SENCOs or Educational Psychologists.

[Children's Emotional Wellbeing Service \(ChEWS\)](#)

This service helps children and young people aged between 5 and 18 through short-term mental and emotional health support including:

- Counselling and therapeutic group activities
- One-to-one support
- help accessing services.

ChEWS works closely with CAMHS, nursing services, GPs and local authority services as well as many voluntary and community organisations so young people and families can find the right support for them.

So, if you would like to find out more about the range of services available visit the ChEWS webpages.

You can access the Thriving Kirklees website at <https://www.thrivingkirklees.org.uk/> or call 0300 304 5555

Useful Links

[Home page | Kirklees Live Well \(livewellkirklees.co.uk\)](https://www.livewellkirklees.co.uk)

Live Well Kirklees has information advice & guidance for a healthy Fulfilled life. This includes a community website signposting you to practical support to enable you to live your life – your way.

[Wellbeing | Healthy Living | Kirklees Wellness Service](#)

Information to enable people living healthier, happier lives and feeling more able to look after themselves including how to access to Wellness Coaches.

[Home | Kbp \(kirkleesbetteroutcomespartnership.org\)](https://www.kirkleesbetteroutcomespartnership.org)

Helping people in Kirklees live independent and fulfilling lives, in their own homes.

[West Yorkshire Healthier Together \(wyhealthiertogether.nhs.uk\)](https://www.wyhealthiertogether.nhs.uk)

Improving the Health of Babies, Children and Young People throughout West Yorkshire

There's loads of information about things to do for children and young people:-

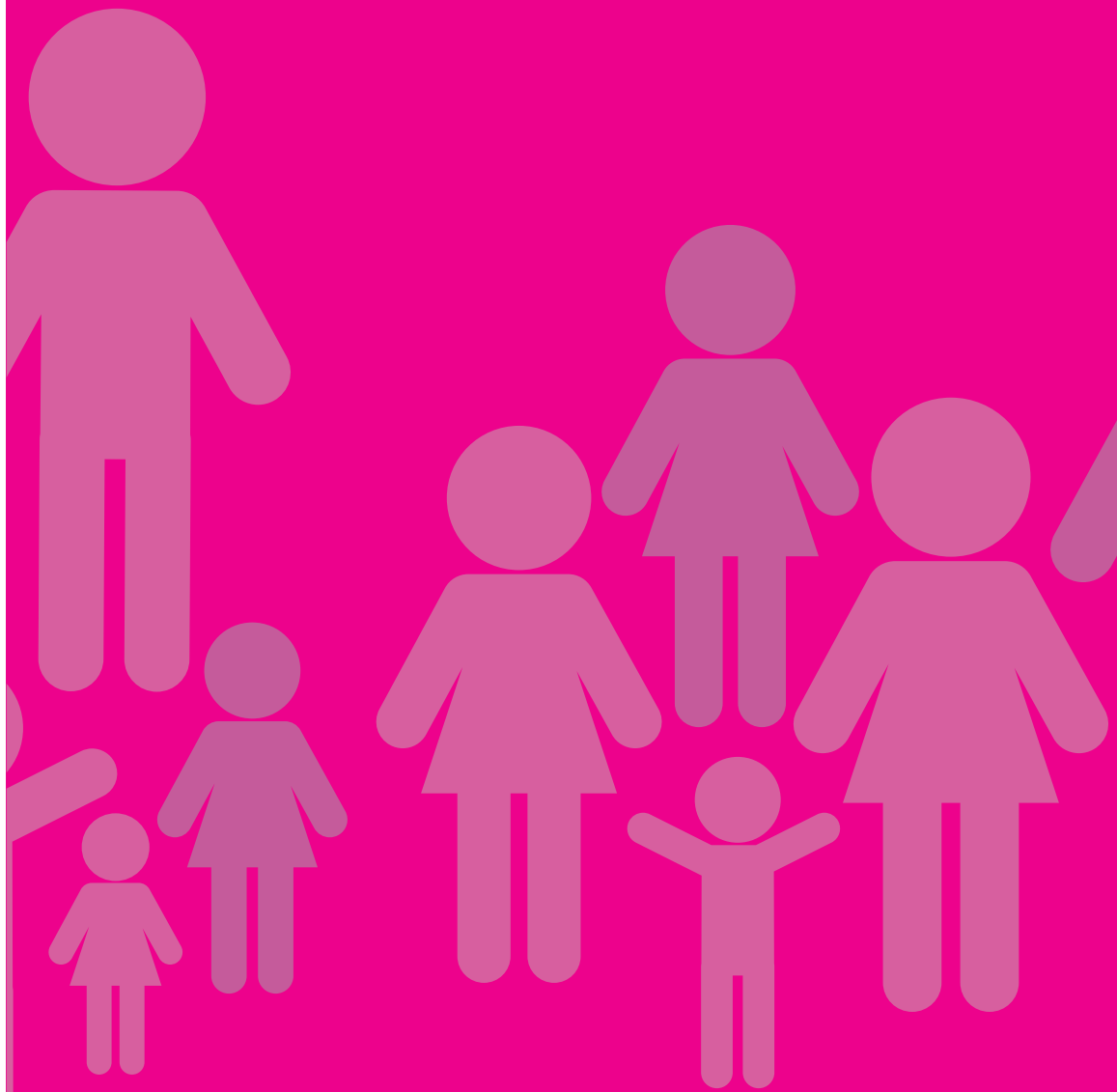
[Kirklees Live Well Community Directory](#)

[kirkleesyouthalliance.org](https://www.kirkleesyouthalliance.org)

[West Riding Football Association](#)

[Yorkshire Sport Foundation](#)

[Kirklees SEND Local Offer \(kirkleeslocaloffer.org.uk\)](https://www.kirkleeslocaloffer.org.uk)



March 2023