



Best Start Family Hub Consultation

23 October – 20 December 2026

1. Introduction

Suffolk County Council is creating a new Best Start Family Hub Network, making it easier for children, young people and families to get information, advice and support.

This work is part of the Government's national Best Start Family Hubs and Healthy Babies Programme. The programme aims to give every child the best start in life and improve life for babies and young children by increasing the support available to families.

We will be investing in more staff, more services and more activities to be delivered through a new network of sites, making sure there is more information and support available to families when they need it, including support for new parents, parenting support and support for children with SEND and their families

Best Start Family Hubs support families from pregnancy until a child becomes an adult, with extra support during a child's early years. They bring services together in one place, this makes it easier for families to find the help they need.

As part of the programme, every local council must create a network of Best Start Family Hubs. These will be supported by more Best Start Network Sites in local communities. This will make services easier to reach and help them work better together.

The aim is for families to get support in places they know, that are easy to reach and fit their needs.

This consultation asks for your views on Suffolk's plans for the Best Start Family Hub Network.

2. Definition of Best Start Sites



Best Start Family Hubs

Best Start Family Hubs are the principal locations from which integrated family support services are delivered, with a national ambition for 70% of sites to be in the 30% most deprived areas (*IDACI)



Best Start Network Sites

Best Start Family Hub Network Sites extend the reach into local communities, providing accessible locations and services closer to home, offering at least one family hub service on a regular basis

3. Suffolk's Current Position

Family Hubs

Suffolk Council currently operates 29 Family Hubs (17 full-time and 12 part-time), all located within former Children's Centre buildings.

There are also 4 former children's centres which are no longer designated as such, 3 that are currently used for delivery of health visiting and school nursing services and as an office base for health staff and 1 that operates as a nursery school offering outreach services across the local community.

In total 33 former children's centre buildings are being considered as part of this proposal

These sites give us a strong starting point to develop our new Best Start Family Hub network. However, a review has highlighted that we could be using our sites more efficiently. This would better meet the needs of local communities, make better use of local buildings and places, while follow national guidance.

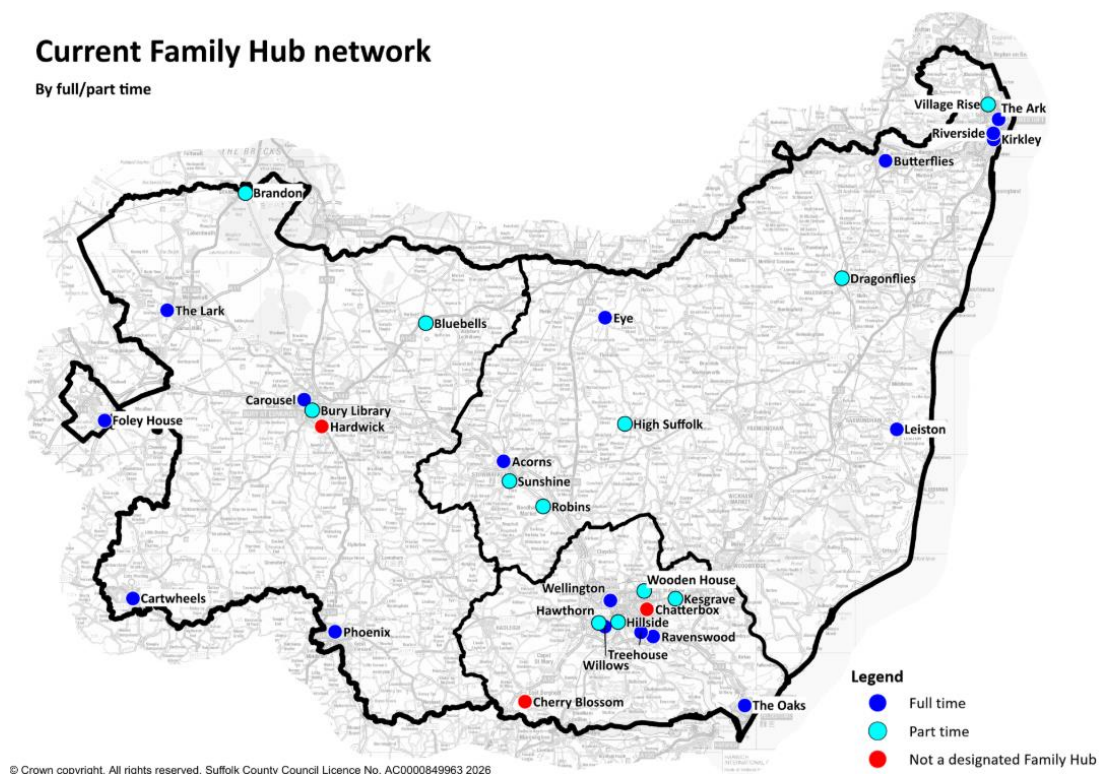


Image 1 Current Family Hub Locations

Libraries

Suffolk Community Libraries play an important role in supporting families with young children through a range of activities designed to promote early years development, language acquisition and school readiness. Through programmes such as Wordplay, Forest of Stories and Stay and Play sessions, libraries provide welcoming, informal environments where families can build social connections while supporting children's sensory, social and developmental learning. Many libraries also offer a baby self-weighting service, providing a convenient community-based resource for parents and carers.

In addition, libraries offer a wide range of information, resources and learning materials that support early literacy and child development, including advice on language development, school readiness, reading for pleasure and parenting support.

As trusted and accessible community assets, libraries are well placed to play an important role within the Best Start Family Hub Network, helping to extend support into local communities and improve access to information, advice and services for families across Suffolk

Childcare Sufficiency Duty

The Council has a legal duty under the Childcare Act 2006 to make sure there are enough childcare places. The new Best Start Family Hub Network gives the Council a chance to review how its buildings are used. There is an option for some buildings to be used for early years education and childcare. This could create more childcare places in areas where they are most needed. It would also improve access to good early learning. Council buildings would continue to support children, families and local communities. By using buildings for both childcare and family support, the Council can make better use of public money and resources. This could help children do well and help parents take up work or training.

SEND (Special Educational Needs and Disabilities) Duties

The Council wants families to get the right services and support when they need them. We will work with families, schools, health services and social care to understand local needs and plan support. As part of this work, we may also consider using some Council buildings for SEND services or other education provision. This could help provide more suitable places for children and young people, while keeping family support available in local communities.

4. Future Best Start Family Hub Network Proposal

Through the development of the Best Start Family Hub Network, we aim to:

- Make services easier for families to find and access.
- Increase support for babies, children and families.
- Expand access to childcare places and SEND provision
- Make best use of community buildings and public resources.
- Increase the number of locations where families can access support.
- Deliver a modern, sustainable and integrated network of services for children and families across Suffolk.

The proposed Best Start Family Hub Network will change how services are provided across Suffolk. It will include Best Start Family Hub Sites and many more local Network Sites, with closer links to libraries. This will make support easier to find and bring services together, while keeping and improving the help already offered to children and families.

The plans will improve access to support, not reduce it. More local Network Sites will help families get information, advice and support closer to home. Services will grow over time, including Healthy Babies services, parenting support, early years help and support for children with additional needs.

This means there will be more places and more support for families, not less.

We will not just spread the same services across more places. A larger workforce and stronger work with partner groups will provide a wider range of support. Services will be planned around local needs, so children, young people and families get joined-up help.

The plans are based on local needs and Department for Education guidance. We also looked at how suitable the current buildings are and how they can be used best.

(APPENDIX 1)

Network Model

The planned Best Start Family Hub Network would move from the current model of 29 Family Hubs (17 full-time and 12 part-time) to 17 Best Start Family Hub Sites and 33 Best Start Network Sites

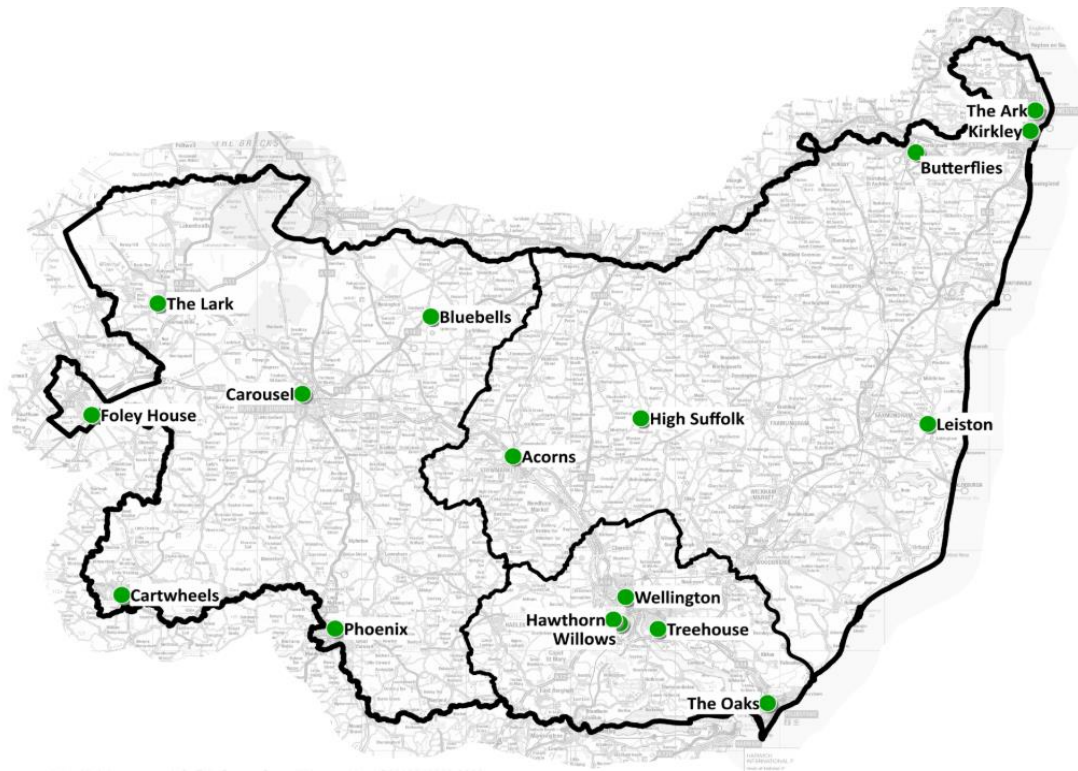


Image 2 Future Best Start Family Hub Sites

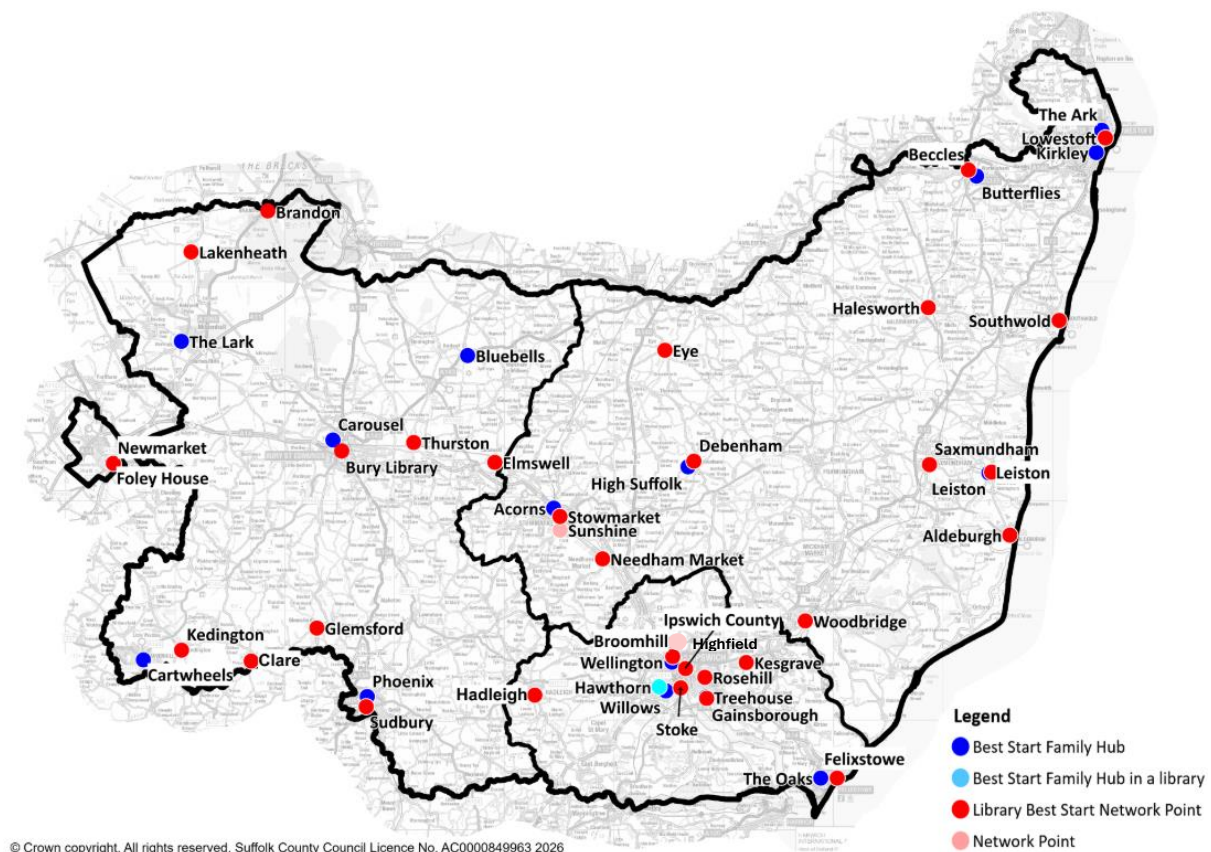


Image 3 Proposed Best Start Family Hubs and Best Start Network Sites

This plan would create more identifiable places across Suffolk where families can get help.

The Council could make better use of its buildings so local people get the most from them. Some buildings may be used for childcare or support for children with SEND, where Family Hub services could move to a nearby library or another community place.

It is proposed that

1. Of the 33 former children's centre/family hubs:

- Seventeen buildings will be designated as Best Start Family Hubs (64.7% of which are located in areas >30% IDACI)
- Four buildings will be designated as Best Start Network Sites (2 in libraries, 1 in an existing part time Family Hub and 1 in a nursery school)
- Six sites are explored for repurposing as Early Years provision, helping to increase access to childcare places and support the Council's statutory duty to secure sufficient childcare provision.
- Two sites are explored for alternative use as SEND provision, supporting growing demand for specialist services for children with additional needs.
- Four buildings no longer form part of our Family Hub network. Only one of these buildings is currently designated as a Family Hub and services delivered in this site will be relocated into alternative community venues within the local area, these alternative venues will form part of the Best Start Family Hub Network

2. Suffolk libraries currently offering children and family services are designated as Best Start Network Points

The existing offer delivered in libraries will be enhanced in partnership with Best Start Family Hubs in response to community need. For example, providing more access to information and advice, investing in a wider range of books and providing a wider range of activities:

Site by Site Information

Best Start Family Hubs

It is proposed that the following sites currently operating as Family Hubs we will be designated **Best Start Family Hubs**, with current service offer continuing and being developed further in response to community need:

Family Hub	Address
Leiston	Waterloo Road, Leiston, IP16 4HF
Treehouse	251 Clapgate Lane, Ipswich, IP3 0RH
The Ark	Water Lane, Lowestoft, NR32 2NH
Kirkley	Kirkley Street, Lowestoft, NR33 0LU
Butterflies	Castle Hill, Beccles, NR34 7BQ
High Suffolk	Gracechurch Street, Debenham, IP14 6BL
Bluebells	Bury Lane, Stanton, IP31 2DE
Acorns	Violet Hill Health Centre, Violet Hill Road, Stowmarket, IP14 1NL
Phoenix	Tudor Road, Sudbury, CO10 1NP
Hawthorn	In Chantry Library, Hawthorn Drive, Ipswich, IP2 0QY
Willows	Magdalene Close, Ipswich, IP2 9UX
Wellington	52 Chevallier Street, Ipswich, IP1 2PB
The Lark at Mildenhall Hub	Mildenhall Hub, Sheldrick Way, Mildenhall, IP28 7JX
Foley House	52 Wellington Street, Newmarket, CB8 0HY
Cartwheels	Norton Road, Haverhill, CB9 8NF
Carousel	Newbury Community Centre, 1 Charles Place, Bury St Edmunds, IP32 6TD
The Oaks	Grange Road, Felixstowe, IP11 2LA

Best Start Network Sites

It is proposed that the following sites we will be designated **Best Start Network Sites**

Family Hub	Address	Proposal
Bury Library Family Hub	Bury Library, Sergeants Walk, St Andrews Street North, Bury St Edmunds, Suffolk, IP33 1TZ	current family hub service offer continuing and being developed in response to community need
Brandon Family Hub	The Brandon Centre, Bury Road, Brandon, Suffolk, IP27 0BQ	current family hub service offer continuing and being developed in response to community need
Sunshine Family Hub	Stowmarket Community Centre Hillside Stowmarket Suffolk IP14 2BD	current family hub service offer continuing and being developed in response to community need
Highfield Nursery School	Chesterfield Dr, Ipswich IP1 6DW	provides services on an outreach basis across the local community and information advice and guidance from the building, Outreach offer will continue with some information advice and guidance from the building

The following 2 tables provide a list of Libraries that will be designated as **Best Start Network Points**

The first table shows Libraries where the current children and families service offer will continue. This existing offer will be enhanced in partnership with Best Start Family Hubs in response to community need. For example, providing more access to information and advice, investing in a wider range of books and providing a wider range of activities.

Library	Address
Aldeburgh Library	Victoria Road, Aldeburgh, IP15 5EG
Broomhill Library (Ipswich)	Sherrington Road, Ipswich, IP1 4HT
Clare Library	The Guildhall Flat, High St, Sudbury CO10 8NY
Glemsford Library	Unit 1 Bells Ln, Sudbury CO10 7QA

Library	Address
Leiston Library	Old Post Office Square, Main Street, Leiston, IP16 4ER
Southwold Library	Old Hospital Hub, Field Stile Road, Southwold, IP18 6LD
Beccles Library	Blyburgate, Beccles, NR34 9TB
Debenham Library	School Corner, Debenham, Stowmarket, IP14 6PL
Elmswell Library	Cooks Road, Elmswell, IP30 9BX
Felixstowe Library	Crescent Road, Felixstowe, IP11 7BY
Hadleigh Library	29 High Street, Hadleigh, IP7 5AG
Haverhill Library	Camps Road, Haverhill, CB9 8HB
Kedington Library	Community Centre, Arms Lane, Kedington, CB9 7QQ
Lakenheath Library	65 High Street, Lakenheath, IP27 9DS
Lowestoft Library	Clapham Road South, Lowestoft, NR32 1DR
Newmarket Library	1a The Guineas, Newmarket, CB8 8EQ
Rosehill Library	Tomline Road, Ipswich, IP3 8DB
Saxmundham Library	County Offices, Street Farm Road, Saxmundham, IP17 1AL
Sudbury Library	Market Hill, Sudbury, CO10 2EN
Thurston Library	Norton Road, Thurston, Bury St Edmunds, IP31 3PB
Woodbridge Library	New Street, Woodbridge, IP12 1DT
Stowmarket Library	Milton Road, Stowmarket, IP14 1EX

The following table shows where libraries we will collocate Family Hub service delivery that was previously delivered in sites we are proposing a change of use. Where Family Hub services would be delivered from a library, an initial assessment has confirmed sufficient space and capacity. To minimise impacts on library users, activity would be accommodated within underused areas of buildings and where possible on days when libraries are closed to the public. This approach would enable more family support services to be available locally while maintaining access to core library services.

Each of these sites is listed below with an outline of what this will look like.

Library	Address	Proposal
Needham Market Library	4 Teachers Close, Needham Market, IP6 8BW	Robins Family Hub services relocated to library on days it is closed to the public, library child and family offer to continue
Stoke Library	High School, Maidenhall Approach, Ipswich, IP2 8PL	Hillside Family Hub services relocated to library on days it is closed to the public, library child and family offer to continue
Eye Library	6 Cross Street, Eye, IP23 7AB	Eye Family Hub services relocated to library on days it is closed to the public, library child and family offer to continue
Gainsborough Community Library	Clapgate Lane, Ipswich, IP3 0RL	Ravenswood Family Hub services relocated to library, library child and family offer to continue
Halesworth Library	Bridge Street, Halesworth, IP19 8AD	Dragonflies Family Hub services relocated to library on days it is closed to the public, library child and family offer to continue
Ipswich County Library	Northgate Street, Ipswich, IP1 3DE	Wooden House Family Hub services relocated to library, library child and family offer to continue
Kesgrave Library	Kinsey House, Kays Close, Kesgrave, IP5 2HL	Kesgrave Family Hub services relocated to library, library child and family offer to continue

Family Hubs - Proposed Changes of Use

It is proposed that the use of the following sites is changed. Family Hub services will continue to be delivered, but be relocated to another venue within the local community:

Family Hub	Family Hub Address	Proposed Future Use	Proposed Location That Services will Relocate To	Approx. walking distance
Dragonflies Family Hub	Wissett Road, Halesworth, IP19 8BT	Early Years Provision	Halesworth Library	0.2 miles
Eye Family Hub	Church Street, Eye, IP23 7BD	Early Years P Education/SE ND Provision	Eye Library	0.3 miles
Riverside Family Hub	Canning Road, Lowestoft, NR33 0TQ	Early Years Provision	No Family Hub services currently delivered on site Kirkley Family Hub	0.7 miles
Robins Family Hub	Bosmere Primary School, Quinton Road, Needham Market, IP6 8BP	Education/SE ND Provision	Needham Market Library	0.3 miles
Village Rise Family Hub	Blyford Road, Lowestoft, NR32 4PZ	Early Years Provision	The Ark Family Hub	1.4 miles
Hillside Family Hub	Maidenhall Approach, Ipswich, IP2 8NY	Early Years or SEND Provision	Stoke Library	0.2 miles
Wooden House Family Hub	Lanark Road, Ipswich, IP4 3EH	Early Years Provision	Ipswich County Library	1.9 miles
Kesgrave Family Hub	22 Bell Lane, Kesgrave, Ipswich, IP5 1JQ	No Further Use by	Alternative venue to be confirmed	

Family Hub	Family Hub Address	Proposed Future Use	Proposed Location That Services will Relocate To	Approx. walking distance
		Children's Services		
Ravenswood Family Hub	103 Hening Avenue, Ipswich, IP3 9QJ	No Further Use by Children's Services	Gainsborough Community Library	0.9 miles
3 former children's centres which are no longer designated as such				
Chatterbox	Copleston Road, Ipswich, IP4 5HB	No Further Use by Children's Services	N/A	
Hardwick	Steward Rd, Bury St Edmunds, IP33 2PW	Early Years provision on site to continue	N/A	
Cherry Blossom	Hadleigh Rd, East Bergholt, CO7 6QT	Early Years Provision	N/A	

If a building is no longer used as a Family Hub, services will move to a nearby library or Best Start Family Hub. Where possible, the new venue will be within walking distance.

The new network is designed to give families more ways to get support, closer to where they live.

Over time we will consider how we can further grow the network, thinking about opportunities to include more community venues such as schools and community centres.

5. Why Are We Consulting?

We want to understand the views of families, residents, staff, partners and community organisations before any decisions are made. Feedback from this consultation will help shape the final proposals and ensure that local needs and priorities are reflected in the future Best Start Family Hub Network.

Some of the proposed changes involve significant changes to Family Hubs which we previously designated Children's Centre buildings. Under the Childcare Act 2006, the Council is required to consult with local communities where significant changes to Children's Centre services or buildings are proposed.

Following the consultation, all feedback received will be carefully reviewed and used to inform the final Best Start Family Hub network model.

Once decisions have been made, detailed implementation plans will be developed for each site, including arrangements to support a smooth transition to new sites where necessary.

Change of use to alternative provision is subject to the outcome of this consultation and also identification of suitably qualified education / early years providers and agreement of contractual terms.

We will work closely with families and delivery partners to minimise disruption, maintain continuity of services and ensure regular communication throughout the process so that users are kept informed and supported at every stage of implementation.

APPENDIX 1

IDACI = *Income Deprivation Affecting Children Index*, a UK measure showing the proportion of children aged 0–15 living in income-deprived families

% LSOA = This shows the proportion of neighbourhoods within a Family Hub's catchment area that fall within the 10% to 30% most deprived areas nationally, based on the Index of Deprivation Affecting Children (IDACI)

Family Hub	Address	Currently Operating Full / Part Time	Proposal for Future Use	What IDACI decile is the building located in? i.e. 10%, 20%, 30%	% of LSOAs 10-30% in reach area	Rationale for proposed future use
The Ark	Water Lane, Lowestoft, NR32 2NH	Full Time	Best Start Family Hub	10%	44.4%	Large site with multifunctional use, located within an area ranked among the 10% most deprived nationally according to the Income Deprivation Affecting Children Index (IDACI), indicating high levels of child poverty and associated need. This aligns with the Department for Education's ambition for Best Start Family Hubs to be located in areas of greatest need, ensuring support is accessible to children and families who are most likely to benefit from these services.
Butterflies	Castle Hill, Beccles, NR34 7BQ	Full Time	Best Start Family Hub	20%	10.0%	Large site with multifunctional use, located within an area ranked among the 20% most deprived nationally according to the Income Deprivation Affecting Children Index (IDACI), indicating high levels of child poverty and associated need. This aligns with the Department for Education's ambition for Best Start Family Hubs to be located in areas of greatest need, ensuring support is accessible to children and families who are most likely to benefit from these services.
Carousel	Newbury Community Centre, 1 Charles Place, Bury St Edmunds, IP32 6TD	Full Time	Best Start Family Hub	20%	23.1%	Medium sized site with multifunctional use, located within an area ranked among the 20% most deprived nationally according to the Income Deprivation Affecting Children Index (IDACI), indicating relatively high levels of child poverty and associated need. This aligns with the Department for Education's ambition for Best Start Family Hubs to be located in areas of greatest need, ensuring support is accessible to children and families who are most likely to benefit from these services.

Family Hub	Address	Currently Operating Full / Part Time	Proposal for Future Use	What IDACI decile is the building located in? i.e. 10%, 20%, 30%	% of LSOAs 10-30% in reach area	Rationale for proposed future use
Cartwheels	Norton Road, Haverhill, CB9 8NF (Camps Rd, Haverhill CB9 8HB)	Full Time	Best Start Family Hub	20%	20.0%	Medium sized site with multifunctional use, located within an area ranked among the 20% most deprived nationally according to the Income Deprivation Affecting Children Index (IDACI), indicating relatively high levels of child poverty and associated need. This aligns with the Department for Education's ambition for Best Start Family Hubs to be located in areas of greatest need, ensuring support is accessible to children and families who are most likely to benefit from these services.
Phoenix	Tudor Road, Sudbury, CO10 1NP	Full Time	Best Start Family Hub	20%	17.7%	Large site with multifunctional use, located within an area ranked among the 20% most deprived nationally according to the Income Deprivation Affecting Children Index (IDACI), indicating relatively high levels of child poverty and associated need. This aligns with the Department for Education's ambition for Best Start Family Hubs to be located in areas of greatest need, ensuring support is accessible to children and families who are most likely to benefit from these services.
Treehouse	251 Clapgate Lane, Ipswich, IP3 0RH	Full Time	Best Start Family Hub	20%	42.9%	Large site with multifunctional use, located within an area ranked among the 20% most deprived nationally according to the Income Deprivation Affecting Children Index (IDACI), indicating relatively high levels of child poverty and associated need. This aligns with the Department for Education's ambition for Best Start Family Hubs to be located in areas of greatest need, ensuring support is accessible to children and families who are most likely to benefit from these services.

Family Hub	Address	Currently Operating Full / Part Time	Proposal for Future Use	What IDACI decile is the building located in? i.e. 10%, 20%, 30%	% of LSOAs 10-30% in reach area	Rationale for proposed future use
Wellington	52 Chevallier Street, Ipswich, IP1 2PB	Full Time	Best Start Family Hub	20%	83.3%	Large site with multifunctional use, located within an area ranked among the 20% most deprived nationally according to the Income Deprivation Affecting Children Index (IDACI), indicating relatively high levels of child poverty and associated need. This aligns with the Department for Education's ambition for Best Start Family Hubs to be located in areas of greatest need, ensuring support is accessible to children and families who are most likely to benefit from these services.
Willows	Magdalene Close, Ipswich, IP2 9UX	Full Time	Best Start Family Hub	20%	60.0%	Large site with multifunctional use, located within an area ranked among the 20% most deprived nationally according to the Income Deprivation Affecting Children Index (IDACI), indicating relatively high levels of child poverty and associated need. This aligns with the Department for Education's ambition for Best Start Family Hubs to be located in areas of greatest need, ensuring support is accessible to children and families who are most likely to benefit from these services.
Hawthorn	Chantry Library, Hawthorn Drive, Ipswich, IP2 0QY	Part Time	Best Start Family Hub	20%	61.5%	Large site with multifunctional use, located within an area ranked among the 20% most deprived nationally according to the Income Deprivation Affecting Children Index (IDACI), indicating relatively high levels of child poverty and associated need. This aligns with the Department for Education's ambition for Best Start Family Hubs to be located in areas of greatest need, ensuring support is accessible to children and families who are most likely to benefit from these services.
Acorns	Violet Hill Health Centre, Violet Hill Road, Stowmarket, IP14 1NL	Full Time	Best Start Family Hub	30%	7.7%	Large site with multifunctional use, located within an area ranked among the 30% most deprived nationally according to the Income Deprivation Affecting Children Index (IDACI), indicating relatively high levels of child poverty and associated need. This aligns with the Department for Education's ambition for Best Start Family Hubs to be located in areas of greatest need, ensuring support is accessible to children and families who are most likely to benefit from these services.

Family Hub	Address	Currently Operating Full / Part Time	Proposal for Future Use	What IDACI decile is the building located in? i.e. 10%, 20%, 30%	% of LSOAs 10-30% in reach area	Rationale for proposed future use
Leiston	Waterloo Road, Leiston, IP16 4HF	Full Time	Best Start Family Hub	30%	14.3%	Large site with multifunctional use, located within an area ranked among the 30% most deprived nationally according to the Income Deprivation Affecting Children Index (IDACI), indicating relatively high levels of child poverty and associated need. This aligns with the Department for Education's ambition for Best Start Family Hubs to be located in areas of greatest need, ensuring support is accessible to children and families who are most likely to benefit from these services.
The Oaks	Grange Road, Felixstowe, IP11 2LA	Full Time	Best Start Family Hub	40%	20.0%	Large site with multifunctional use, located within an area ranked among the 40% most deprived nationally according to the Income Deprivation Affecting Children Index (IDACI), indicating relatively high levels of child poverty and associated need. This site falls outside the DfE criteria of location within the 30% most disadvantaged areas; however, as the only Family Hub within a large geographical area, it will provide a strategic base for integrated teams to coordinate services and outreach across a wider geographical footprint. This approach will improve access to support for families in communities with the greatest need, whilst ensuring provision is aligned with local demographic demand and strengthening the ability of the local system to meet the needs of children and families in a timely and effective manner.
Kirkley	Kirkley Street, Lowestoft, NR33 0LU	Full Time	Best Start Family Hub	50%	60.0%	Large site with multifunctional use, located within an area ranked among the 50% most deprived nationally according to the Income Deprivation Affecting Children Index. This site falls outside the DfE criteria of location within 30% areas, however there is a high % of LSOAs 10-30% within its reach area, meaning the hub serves many families living in the most disadvantaged areas, ensuring support is accessible to children and families who are most likely to benefit from these services.

Family Hub	Address	Currently Operating Full / Part Time	Proposal for Future Use	What IDACI decile is the building located in? i.e. 10%, 20%, 30%	% of LSOAs 10-30% in reach area	Rationale for proposed future use
Foley House	52 Wellington Street, Newmarket, CB8 0HY	Full Time	Best Start Family Hub	70%	6.7%	Large site with multifunctional use, located within an area ranked among the 70% most deprived nationally according to the Income Deprivation Affecting Children Index (IDACI). This site falls outside the DfE criteria of location within the 30% most disadvantaged areas; however, as the only Family Hub within a large geographical area, it will provide a strategic base for integrated teams to coordinate services and outreach across a wider geographical footprint. This approach will improve access to support for families in communities with the greatest need, whilst ensuring provision is aligned with local demographic demand and strengthening the ability of the local system to meet the needs of children and families in a timely and effective manner.
The Lark	Mildenhall Hub, Sheldrick Way, Mildenhall, IP28 7JX	Full Time	Best Start Family Hub	70%	6.7%	Large site with multifunctional use, located within an area ranked among the 70% most deprived nationally according to the Income Deprivation Affecting Children Index (IDACI) This site falls outside the DfE criteria of location within the 30% most disadvantaged areas; however, as the only Family Hub within a large geographical area, it will provide a strategic base for integrated teams to coordinate services and outreach across a wider geographical footprint. This approach will improve access to support for families in communities with the greatest need, whilst ensuring provision is aligned with local demographic demand and strengthening the ability of the local system to meet the needs of children and families in a timely and effective manner.

Family Hub	Address	Currently Operating Full / Part Time	Proposal for Future Use	What IDACI decile is the building located in? i.e. 10%, 20%, 30%	% of LSOAs 10-30% in reach area	Rationale for proposed future use
Bluebells	Bury Lane, Stanton, IP31 2DE	Part Time	Best Start Family Hub	70%	0.0%	Rural site offering well places location to delivery outreach across smaller rural areas. Located within an area ranked among the 70% most deprived nationally according to the Income Deprivation Affecting Children Index (IDACI). This site falls outside the DfE criteria of location within the 30% most disadvantaged areas; however, as the only Family Hub within a large geographical area, it will provide a strategic base for integrated teams to coordinate services and outreach across a wider geographical footprint. This approach will improve access to support for families in communities with the greatest need, whilst ensuring provision is aligned with local demographic demand and strengthening the ability of the local system to meet the needs of children and families in a timely and effective manner.
High Suffolk	Gracechurch Street, Debenham, IP14 6BL	Part Time	Best Start Family Hub	80%	0.0%	Large site with multifunctional use, located within an area ranked among the 80% most deprived nationally according to the Income Deprivation Affecting Children Index (IDACI), indicating relatively high levels of child poverty and associated need. This site falls outside the DfE criteria of location within the 30% most disadvantaged areas; however, as the only Family Hub within a large geographical area, it will provide a strategic base for integrated teams to coordinate services and outreach across a wider geographical footprint. This approach will improve access to support for families in communities with the greatest need, whilst ensuring provision is aligned with local demographic demand and strengthening the ability of the local system to meet the needs of children and families in a timely and effective manner.
Riverside	Canning Road, Lowestoft, NR33 0TQ	Part Time	EY Provision	30%	80.0%	The site is located within an area ranked among the 30% most deprived nationally according to the Income Deprivation Affecting Children Index (IDACI), however does not currently offer Family Hubs Services. Kirkley Best Start Family Hub is located within 0.7 miles of this site, offering an accessible option for families to access information and support. The area faces childcare sufficiency challenges, with local demand for childcare places exceeding available provision for some families. The site does not currently offer Family Hubs Services.

Family Hub	Address	Currently Operating Full / Part Time	Proposal for Future Use	What IDACI decile is the building located in? i.e. 10%, 20%, 30%	% of LSOAs 10-30% in reach area	Rationale for proposed future use
Dragonflies	Wissett Road, Halesworth, IP19 8BT	Part Time	EY Provision	40%	20.0%	The site is located within the 40% most disadvantaged areas outside the DfE criteria of location within the 30% most disadvantaged areas; however, Halesworth Library is located within 0.2 miles and can accommodate relocation of family hub services, maximising an opportunity to make most efficient use of the available premises. The area faces childcare sufficiency challenges, with local demand for childcare places exceeding available provision for some families.
Village Rise	Blyford Road, Lowestoft, NR32 4PZ	Part Time	EY Provision	50%	25.0%	Village Rise is located within the 50% most disadvantaged areas, sitting outside the DfE criteria of location within the 30% most disadvantaged areas, The Ark Family Hub is located within 1.4 miles of this site, offering an accessible option for families to access information and support The area faces childcare sufficiency challenges, with local demand for childcare places exceeding available provision for some families, maximising an opportunity to make most efficient use of the available premises
Wooden House	Lanark Rd, Ipswich IP4 3EH	Part Time	EY Provision	50%	14.3%	Wooden House is located within the 50% most disadvantaged areas, sitting outside the DfE criteria of location within the 30% most disadvantaged areas The area faces childcare sufficiency challenges, with local demand for childcare places exceeding available provision for some families. Ipswich County Library is located within 1.9 miles of this site and can accommodate relocation of family hub services, maximising an opportunity to make most efficient use of the available premises
Eye	Church Street, Eye, IP23 7BD	Full Time	EY /SEND / Education Provision	60%	0.0%	Eye is located is located within the 60% most disadvantaged areas, sitting outside the DfE criteria of location within the 30% most disadvantaged areas. Eye Library is located within 0.3 miles of this site and can accommodate relocation of the service offer, maximising an opportunity to make most efficient use of the available premises. The area faces childcare sufficiency challenges, with local demand for childcare places exceeding available provision for some families.
Cherry Blossom	Hadleigh Rd, East Bergholt, CO7 6QT	No longer part of Family Hub Network	EY Provision	70%	0.0%	Not currently designated or operating as a family hub, not serving areas of need

Family Hub	Address	Currently Operating Full / Part Time	Proposal for Future Use	What IDACI decile is the building located in? i.e. 10%, 20%, 30%	% of LSOAs 10-30% in reach area	Rationale for proposed future use
Hardwick	Steward Rd, Bury St Edmunds, IP33 2PW	No longer part of Family Hub Network	EY Provision	60%	0.0%	Not currently designated or operating as a family hub, not serving areas of need
Bury Library	Bury Library, Sergeants Walk, St Andrews Street North, Bury St Edmunds, Suffolk, IP33 1TZ	Part Time	Network Point	30%	9.1%	Bury Library is located within the 30% most disadvantaged areas, sitting outside the DfE criteria of location within the 30% most disadvantaged areas. The site will continue to offer current services, with no change, but will be designated as Best Start Network Site
Brandon	The Brandon Centre, Bury Road, Brandon, Suffolk, IP27 0BQ	Part Time	Network Point	40%	10.0%	Brandon is located within the 40% most disadvantaged areas, sitting just outside the DfE criteria of location within the 30% most disadvantaged areas Site will continue to offer current services, with no change, but will be designated as Best Start Network Site
Sunshine	Stowmarket Community Centre Hillside Stowmarket Suffolk IP14 2BD	Part Time	Network Point	50%	20.0%	Sunshine is located within the 50% most disadvantaged areas, sitting outside the DfE criteria of location within the 30% most disadvantaged areas Site will continue to offer current services, with no change, but will be designated as Best Start Network Site
Ravenswood	103 Hening Avenue, Ipswich, IP3 9QJ	Full Time	No longer part of Family Hub Network	40%	16.7%	The site is located within the 40% most disadvantaged areas; however, Gainsborough Library is located within 0.9 miles and can accommodate relocation of family hub services, maximising an opportunity to make most efficient use of the available premises

Family Hub	Address	Currently Operating Full / Part Time	Proposal for Future Use	What IDACI decile is the building located in? i.e. 10%, 20%, 30%	% of LSOAs 10-30% in reach area	Rationale for proposed future use
Kesgrave	22 Bell Lane, Kesgrave, Ipswich, IP5 1JQ	Part Time	No longer part of Family Hub Network	40%	0.0%	Small site that does not easily accommodate the full range of services and integration required by the DfE. Alternative Venue TBC
Chatterbox	Copleston Road, Ipswich, IP4 5HB	Not a designated Family Hub	No longer part of Family Hub Network	80%	0.0%	Not currently designated or operating as a family hub, not serving areas of need
Hillside	Maidenhall Approach, Ipswich, IP2 8NY	Part Time	SEND Provision	40%	83.3%	Hillside is located within the 40% most disadvantaged areas, sitting outside the DfE criteria of location within the 30% most disadvantaged areas authorities have a statutory duty to ensure there are enough suitable school places for children in their area, including specialist provision for children with SEND. This includes planning for mainstream, specialist, and special school placements. Hillside is situated on the site of the Hillside Primary School and ideally situated to be repurposed to offer SEND provision. The current Family Hub is located 0.2 miles from Stoke Library which can accommodate relocation of family hub services, maximising an opportunity to make most efficient use of the available premises

Family Hub	Address	Currently Operating Full / Part Time	Proposal for Future Use	What IDACI decile is the building located in? i.e. 10%, 20%, 30%	% of LSOAs 10-30% in reach area	Rationale for proposed future use
Robins	Bosmere Primary School, Quinton Road, Needham Market, IP6 8BP	Part Time	SEND Provision	50%	0.0%	Robins is located within the 50% most disadvantaged areas, sitting outside the DfE criteria of location within the 30% most disadvantaged areas. The site is located within 0.3 miles of Needham Market Library which can accommodate relocation of the service offer, maximising an opportunity to make most efficient use of the available premises. Local authorities have a statutory duty to ensure there are enough suitable school places for children in their area, including specialist provision for children with SEND. This includes planning for mainstream, specialist, and special school placements. Robins is situated on the site of the Bosmere Primary School and ideally situated to be repurposed to offer SEND provision.