

Consultancy

4Children



formerly Kids' Clubs Network

Intergrating Services

Developing Integrated Services for Children and their Families.
Children's Centres linking with Extended Schools

Consultancy Services for Local Partners: Putting policy into best practice
Consultancy 4Children 020 7522 6941
www.4Children.org.uk/consultancy



Intergrating Services for Children and

Making the Most of the Children's Centre Strategy

The next phase of the Government's National Childcare Strategy 2004-6 is the development of Children's Centres linked to Extended Schools.

4Children welcomes the new integrated approach to services for children and families. Children's Centres will serve children and families in the 20% most disadvantaged wards and link to local schools that also provide out of school childcare for older children. Local authorities will need help developing and sustaining Children's Centre services in their area.

4Children's Consultancy Service can help with all aspects of these developments to help local authorities deliver better outcomes for children and parents.

Extended Schools

The development of out of school childcare in schools is an essential strategy for local authorities and needs to link into Children's Centres at local level. 4Children can help them to deliver their local childcare targets and provide solutions for children and young people.

4Children's Consultancy Service can help partnerships ensure these two major initiatives come together and improve outcomes for children and families.

Children's Centres Supporting Older Children

4Children is working to highlight the role that Children's Centres can and need to play in older children's lives.

Children's Centres help older children by:

- Supporting their education
- Encouraging healthy living
- Reducing vulnerability to crime
- Sustaining parental employment
- Ensuring wider community involvement

Services provided for older children include:

- Out of school childcare
- Study support
- Youth provision
- Parenting programmes
- Play and sports activities

The services provided will depend on the needs of the local community and help them build safer places for older children.

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out of school
clubs 4-16 years

school

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0-14/16

childminding
network 0-8
years

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their Families

Family support services

neighbourhood nursery 0-5 years

Children's Centre 0-5 years

school

school

school

pre-school 2½-5 years

Sure Start & health services

Linking Together Services for Children and Young People

4Children is keen to work with local authorities to strategically plan for services 0-14/16 years in Children's Centres. The organisation is seeking partners to develop flagship projects.

Each centre will provide a core offer:

- Integrated education and daycare
- Links to services for older children
- Family support and outreach for parents
- Child and family health services
- Childminding networks

4Children wants to develop children's and young people's services, alongside those for younger children. For example, linking Children's Centres to Extended Schools, use of childminders, wraparound services and promoting out of school places in nursery provision.

Working with Local Schools

Local authorities need practical advice and support to develop Extended Schools including: strategic planning of services, understanding best practice, feasibility studies, consultation with teachers and parents, setting up and sustaining out of school clubs.

4Children's Consultancy Service can provide relevant guidance and support to local authorities and enable them to maximise childcare opportunities in and around local schools.

Supporting You to Develop Your Strategy

4Children will work in partnership with the childcare organisations representing childminding, pre-schools, neighbourhood nurseries and Sure Start Projects, family support, health and training services. 4Children is a gateway to services for children and families at local level.

4Children's Consultancy Service can help guide local authorities through the planning, funding and delivery of services and help engage other local partners.

Developing Children's Centres linked to Extended Schools

4Children's Consultancy Service is working with local authorities to develop models of Children's Centres for children 0-14/16 years, linked to Extended Schools.

Consultancy 4Children can help with the following:

- Strategic Planning of Children's Centres and Extended Schools
- Review of Children's Services in local authorities
- Audit of local early years and childcare need
- Feasibility Studies
- Consultation with children, young people and parents
- Funding opportunities
- Developing flagship projects
- Delivery of out of school services in Children's Centres

Consultancy 4Children has a team of senior consultants with expertise in early years and childcare development, working with schools and education authorities. 4Children has a track record in the delivery of consultancy across the UK.

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4Children is the gateway to services for children and families and is working in partnership with: the National Day Nurseries Association, Pre-school Learning Alliance and National Childminding Association to develop services in and around Children's Centres.

