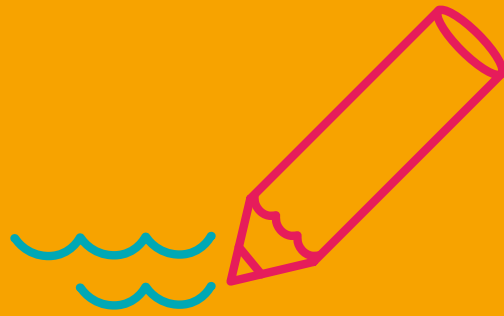


Telephone befriending

Home-Start volunteers can also offer warm and friendly support over the phone. Weekly calls can be arranged to provide a listening ear to help a parent through a difficult time.

Calls can be more convenient, and easier to fit into a busy family life. Volunteers can give the same practical and emotional support, in a way that suits families best and can offer more flexibility.



School readiness

School readiness volunteers offer contact to families needing support and guidance on how to build confidence and skills in children to help prepare them for starting nursery or school. Trained volunteers utilise our school readiness resources and role model how to encourage home learning opportunities to develop the necessary skills required for future educational achievement.

Contact us today for more information on how you can help lo

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We are a Charitable Incorporated Organisation (CIO), registered with Charity Commission. Registered Charity No 1099770.



Supporting families with young children





Help for Kirklees Families

Home-Start Kirklees is a registered charity with over 20 years' experience. We offer volunteer and peer led support to families with young children.



Types of Support:



Why do we support families?

Being a parent is often not easy. It can be lonely, frustrating, stressful and overwhelming at times. All parents can struggle at one time or another. Home-Start supports families through their toughest times.

Who do we help?

Parents can self refer or asked to be referred. They must live in Kirklees and have a child under 5 years of age not yet in full-time education. There are many types of scenarios and situations that our supported parents find themselves in e.g. low mood, anxiety, unplanned pregnancy, family breakdown, loneliness, financial worries, children with physical or behavioural difficulties etc... Parents can sometimes feel worn down from everyday life challenges.

How do we help?

- Assess family's needs to develop a package of support
- Provide a listening ear and emotional support
- Information, advice and guidance
- Signposting to other services
- Handholding to community-based provision or medical appointments
- Services are based around the principle of providing non-judgmental and compassionate help.
- Confidential service
- Not time limited
- Parents choose our support and lead any decision making

Home visiting support

Home-visiting support is at the heart of what we do. After meeting with the family to discuss their specific needs, we will match the family to a volunteer who has the skills and expertise to offer the best support. Volunteers commit to working with a family on a weekly basis, supporting in a range of ways to ensure they achieve positive change.

“With the support of a Home-Start volunteer, I learned how to interact and play with my son, put boundaries in place, and create a safe and secure home”
Supported parent

“If it wasn't for my volunteer, I'd still be at home with the curtains closed”
Supported parent

Peer Group Support

Weekly peer support sessions provide a comfortable, inclusive environment that enables parents and their children to meet, socialise and be supported in a respectful, confidential space. Our groups help provide targeted support to isolated parents who may not have the confidence to take the first steps to build links within their own communities.

Young Parents Service (aged 14-24 years)

We run weekly sessions with activities focussing on any issues specific to the group members. Sessions begin with the opportunity to enjoy a healthy lunch together and are supported by a team of staff, peer educators and volunteers. Feedback and input from young parents is essential to ensure that the activities and learning meet their needs.

