



Department  
for Education

# **Family Hubs Transformation Fund: Management Information (2022-2024)**

**April 2026**

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## Background

In November 2021, the Department for Education (DfE) awarded £12 million through the Family Hubs Transformation Fund<sup>1</sup> to [13 local authorities](#)<sup>2</sup> (LAs) in England to open family hubs. This fund enabled the department to:

- learn more about the process of local transformation
- build the evidence base
- create resources and learning for LAs moving to a family hub model in the future

Local authorities were originally given a funding deadline of March 2024 to open family hubs, which was extended to September 2024. In autumn 2024, DfE announced a further unfunded extension to March 2025 to enable local authorities to use any unspent transformation funds to continue their transformation work, recognising that timeframes had been challenging and not all planned work had been completed.

The family hubs transformation fund is separate from the [Family Hubs and Start for Life programme](#)<sup>3</sup>, a joint programme with the Department for Health and Social Care, which launched in August 2022 and consists of 75 local authorities. Local authorities funded through the Family Hubs and Start for Life programme received additional funding to also deliver support with parenting, the Home Learning Environment (HLE) and Start for Life (SfL) services.

In April 2026, these 13 LAs joined the 75 LAs from the Family Hubs and Start for Life programme and an additional 65 LAs across England for the national rollout of ['Best Start Family Hubs and Healthy Babies'](#)<sup>4</sup>.

## Overview

This is a publication of Management Information (MI) covering three years of the family hubs transformation fund (2022 – 2024). MI is aggregated data collated and used in the normal course of business to inform operational delivery and policy development. It helped track changes such as number of hubs, services delivered, workforce and training.

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<sup>1</sup> The published [Evaluation of the shared outcomes fund 2 \(SOF2\): family hubs transformation fund](#) provides additional context for understanding the programme.

<sup>2</sup> DfE originally selected 12 LAs for funding through the family hubs transformation fund, including Cumbria County Council. In April 2023, following a local government reorganisation, Cumbria was split into two new LAs: Cumberland, and Westmorland & Furness. Therefore, there are now [13 local authorities](#) in the family hubs transformation fund.

<sup>3</sup> [Family Hubs and Start for Life programme](#)

<sup>4</sup> [Best Start Family Hubs and Healthy Babies](#)

The MI was an annual collection and covers the periods ending December 2022 (which acted as a baseline for data), December 2023, and September 2024. It provides an overall summary of combined data from 13 LAs.

## Analysis

### Family hub sites

Family hub sites are those who met either Part A or Part B of the family hub site definition.

Part A defines a family hub as a physical place where families spanning the 0–19 (25 with SEND) age range can meet trained staff, who connect families to services set out in the service expectations<sup>5</sup>.

In addition to the above, to meet the Part B definition, hubs must also have met the minimum service delivery expectations.

Full definitions are included in [Annex 1](#).

In this analysis, **established family hubs** will refer to those family hubs who met either Part A or Part B of the family hub site definition.

Any sites that provide family hub services but did not meet either of the family hub site definitions, are listed as **working towards the family hub** definition.

When the analysis includes both of the above, it will refer to **all family hubs**.

### Numbers of established family hubs across 13 family hubs transformation fund LAs

As of September 2024:

- 77 established family hubs across the 13 LAs met the Part A or Part B definition
- 35 (45%) established family hubs were in the 30% most deprived [Lower Layer Super Output Areas](#)<sup>6</sup>
- An additional 10 sites reported as working towards the family hub definition.

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<sup>5</sup> [Family hub service expectations \(Annex F\)](#)

<sup>6</sup> Deprivation is measured using the [Income Deprivation Affecting Children Index \(IDACI\)](#). LSOAs are ranked nationally based on the proportion of children aged 0–15 living in income-deprived families. LSOAs in the “30% most deprived” group fall within the top three deciles of this ranking, indicating relatively higher levels of child income deprivation compared with other areas in England.

**Table 1: Number of established family hubs that met the definition of Part A or Part B of a family hub each year**

Year	2022	2023	2024
<b>Total established family hubs</b>	14	61	77
<b>Met Part A</b>	14	61	77
<b>Met Part B</b>	0	28	44
<b>FH in 30% most deprived LSOA</b>	7	28	35

*Table 1: Number of family hubs*

Every year the established family hubs that met the Part B definition also met the Part A definition.

From December 2022 (14 hubs) to December 2023 (61 hubs), the number of established family hubs increased by 336%. Between December 2023 and September 2024 (77 hubs), there was an additional increase of 26%.

**Table 2: Total number of established family hubs and additional sites working towards the family hub definition**

Year	2022	2023	2024
<b>Established family hub sites</b>	14	61	77
<b>Sites working towards FH definition</b>	22	17	10
<b>Total number of sites</b>	36	78	87

*Table 2: Number of sites*

From December 2022 (36 sites) to December 2023 (78 sites), the number of sites increased by 117%. Between December 2023 and September 2024 (87 sites), there was an additional increase of 12%.

## Family hub co-locations

Co-location refers to the physical arrangement of family hubs, where multiple services or community facilities operate from the same location. Not all established family hubs are standalone sites, as many share their premises with other community facilities such as libraries, schools, and nurseries. The table below shows

the number of established family hubs attached to different community functions in each year from 2022 to September 2024.

**Table 3: Total co-located sites for established family hubs**

Co-Location	2022	2023	2024
Attached to library	0	4	7
Attached to nursery	2	6	7
Attached to other LA service	0	3	4
Attached to school	11	18	21
Multi-aspect building for LA services	0	9	10
Other	0	5	5

*Table 3: Number of co-located family hubs*

As of September 2024, 21 established family hubs were co-located with schools, followed by multi-purpose buildings for local authority services (10 hubs), libraries and nurseries (7 hubs each).

Some established family hubs are co-located with multiple facilities; therefore, they appear in every co-location category they share within the table above.

**Please note, for the remainder of this analysis, any site listed as working towards the definition of a family hub, have been included as a family hub.**

## Services delivered

The [Family Hub Service Expectations](#)<sup>7</sup> document lists 24 core services that LAs are expected to deliver through family hubs to families with children aged 0 - 19 (25 with SEND) through the Family Hub model. Services include parent–infant relationships, perinatal mental health support, midwifery/maternity, early language, Home Learning Environment, domestic abuse support and activities for children aged 0-5. The 13 family hubs transformation fund LAs do not receive funding to deliver support with parenting, Home Learning Environment and Start for Life services, unlike the 75 LAs who are part of the Family Hubs and Start for Life programme.

The table below presents the most common services delivered by all family hubs each year<sup>8</sup>.

<sup>7</sup> [Family Hub Service Expectation](#)

<sup>8</sup> This includes all established family hubs and those working towards the definition of a family hub.

**Table 4: Most common services delivered by family hubs each year.**

Year	Service Type	Total Hubs
2022	Activities for children aged 0-5	26
	Health Visiting - aged 0-5 (inclusive of the Start for Life period)	24
	Midwifery/maternity	23
	Early Language and the Home learning environment (HLE)	22
	Infant feeding support	21
	Parenting support	21
2023	Activities for children aged 0-5	62
	Debt and welfare advice	60
	Health Visiting - aged 0-5 (inclusive of the Start for Life period)	55
	Early Language and the Home learning environment (HLE)	54
	SEND support and services (inclusive of the Start for Life period)	53
2024	Activities for children aged 0-5	79
	Debt and welfare advice	71
	Health Visiting - aged 0-5 (inclusive of the Start for Life period)	70
	Early Language and the Home learning environment (HLE)	66
	SEND support and services (inclusive of the Start for Life period)	66

*Table 4: Services*

Across all years, ‘Activities for children aged 0-5’ was the most common service available in the largest number of family hubs. There was no change in the most common services delivered for both 2023 and 2024. However, the total number of hubs offering these services increased by 24% in 2024.

## Workforce types

The family hub workforce is made up of a variety of staff supporting the delivery of family hub services to children, young people, and families. This includes delivery staff, volunteers involved in service delivery, staff employed directly by local authorities or commissioned through partner organisations, and transformation staff supporting the development of family hub services. The table below presents the different types of workforces and their numbers across family hubs. Definitions for each staff type are provided in the terminology section.

**Table 5: Total number of each staff type per year**

Type of staff	2022	2023	2024
Delivery staff employed by LA	280	600	450
Delivery staff employed via commissioned services	190	470	430
Delivery support staff	70	90	60
Volunteers	20	210	120
Transformation staff funded by transformation fund	30	80	30
Transformation staff funded through other sources	50	40	40
Staff for family hub workforce across LA	50	710	740
Staff for family hub workforce in family hub sites	250	570	670
<b>Total number of staff</b>	<b>930</b>	<b>2760</b>	<b>2530</b>
<b>Average number of staff per family hub (rounded up)</b>	<b>26</b>	<b>36</b>	<b>30</b>

*Table 5: Workforce numbers rounded to the nearest 10. The numbers across the different types of staff may not match the total number or average staff due to rounding.*

The overall reported workforce increased from 930 in 2022 to 2,760 by the end of 2023, representing an approximate growth of 197%. During the same period, the number of family hubs grew by 117%. However, from 2023 (2,760) to September 2024 (2,530), the workforce decreased by 8%, while the number of family hubs continued to rise by 12%. This decrease could be the result of funding come to an end.

In 2022, the largest staff group reported was delivery staff employed by local authorities in family hubs. These staff members are employed by the local authority to interact directly with families when delivering a service, programme, or intervention. They were based at a current or planned family hub site.

In 2023 and 2024, the most reported staff category was the staff for family hub workforce employed across local authorities. These staff members enable the overall delivery of family hubs but do not directly support the delivery of a specific service, programme, or intervention. They are employed by the local authority and work across the entire local authority area rather than being based at a single hub.

## Workforce training

Workforce training refers to the development and learning opportunities provided to family hub staff. The tables below present an aggregated overview of training/development activities for each year from 2022 to September 2024.

Table 6 shows total training and development activities across all family hubs, including the number of training/development activities, total training/development activity hours, average hours per training/development activity, and average number of attendees.

**Table 6: Number of training/development activities, hours and average number of attendees each year<sup>9</sup>**

	2022	2023	2024
<b>Number of training / development activities</b>	10	270	180
<b>Total hours of training/development activities</b>	80	1880	1290
<b>Average number of hours per training /development activity</b>	10	7	7
<b>Average number of attendees per training /development activity</b>	7	26	28

*Table 6: The number and total hours of training/development activities have been rounded to the nearest 10, and therefore may cause small discrepancies with the averages of hours or attendees due to rounding.*

The number of training/development activities provided increased from 9 in 2022 to 270 in 2023, before decreasing to 180 in September 2024. This decrease could be the result of funding come to an end.

In 2022, only 1 training/development activity was either fully or partially funded by the family hub transformation fund. This figure rose to 110 in 2023 (41%), before decreasing to 60 in 2024 (33%).

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<sup>9</sup> This is likely to be an over representation as we were unable to deduplicate attendees. Individuals could have attended multiple training courses over the year.

# Methodology

## Data source

The management information (MI) is based on annual self-reported data submitted by local authorities through an Excel based collection. Data quality therefore depends on the accuracy and completeness of returns, variations in interpretation of definitions, guidance or reporting processes which may introduce inconsistencies or errors.

This can lead to inconsistency in interpretation of the different data items and different approaches to calculating aggregate figures. Where we can identify different approaches, we have accounted for this in the analysis. We have only included data for analysis where there is a reasonable assumption of consistency in interpretation by LAs.

Where LA level data has been used instead of site level, it is assumed to reasonably represent all sites in that area, and any missing data is assumed not to significantly change the statistics presented.

## Established family hubs and sites working towards family hub definition

Statistics relating to family hub numbers and co-location are based solely on the established family hubs which met Part A or Part B of the family hub site definition. Subsequent analysis including services, workforce types and workforce training are calculated based on the total number of sites, which included both established family hubs and sites that are working towards the family hub definition.

## Hub location deprivation analysis

The Income Deprivation Affecting Children Index (IDACI) that was published in 2025 was used to calculate the number of hubs in the 30% most deprived LSOAs.

## Missing values

In some sections of the analysis, particularly those relating to workforce and training, N/A or missing values were excluded when calculating averages. Some training courses data was incomplete, and, in these cases, the data confirmed the course was delivered, but number of attendees and hours information was missing. Therefore, the analysis presented is likely to be an under representation. Staff numbers were provided as headcount rather than fulltime equivalent (FTE).

## Rounding

Percentages and averages were rounded to the nearest integer, which may result in small discrepancies between individual values and totals. The numbers reported in workforce and training were rounded to the nearest 10. This is to reflect some of the inconsistencies with the data returns.

# Annex 1: Family hub site definition

## **Family hub site definition Part A:**

The site is a physical place a family can visit and speak to a trained staff member, face to face, who will provide them with straightforward information or advice on a wide range of family issues spanning the 0-19 (25 with SEND) age range and connect them appropriately to further services across the 0-19 (25 with SEND) age range if they need more targeted or specialist support.

These knowledgeable staff are available to connect families to all services in '[Family hub service expectations \(annex F\)](#)' of the [Family Hubs and Start for Life programme: local authority guide 2022 to 2025](#).

## **Family hub site definition Part B:**

Families accessing parenting support, parent–infant relationships and perinatal mental health support, early language and the Home Learning Environment and infant feeding (the services receiving additional investment through the Family hubs and Start for Life programme), have access to a key contact within the family hub who can help them to understand the support that is available to them and connect families to the right services.

The site uses the naming convention 'family hub' to describe the building itself (as well as through other information and communication relating to the hub).

The hub meets the requirements in the table below:

Service / Support	Minimum requirements of family hub site
Parent–infant relationships and perinatal mental health support	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Designated welcoming, safe and secure space where parents can speak to practitioners, volunteers, or other peer supporters about their wellbeing and mental health.</li> <li>• Information leaflets and brochures are available in the family hub to help destigmatise mental health and parent infant relationship difficulties, and to raise awareness of support available (once these become available as part of the National Public Health Campaign).</li> <li>• Offer antenatal classes (face-to-face and/or online) that include advice on mental health and the importance of early relationships with babies, including support for fathers and co-parents/carers.</li> <li>• Parents and carers can access face-to-face support for mental health and parent–infant relationships in the family hub through enhancing existing services and/or new offers.</li> </ul>
Infant feeding	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The family hub has a designated welcoming, safe and secure breastfeeding space for mothers to breastfeed and meet other breastfeeding parents.</li> <li>• Physical information (e.g., leaflets/brochures) is available at the family hub, so parents/carers know how to access local support.</li> <li>• Drop-in infant feeding support sessions/groups are available at the family hub.</li> <li>• Equipment is available on loan from the family hub for parents who need it (e.g. breast pumps), and staff sensitively support parents to use it.</li> </ul>
Local authority 0-19 public health services based on local needs assessments	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• There are drop-in opportunities in the family hub provided by professionals and local providers of different services available.</li> </ul>

Activities for children aged 0-5	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Family hubs deliver the statutory duty to provide activities for young children (aged 0-5), e.g., interactive play or stay and play sessions.</li> </ul>
Domestic abuse support	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Private spaces are available to allow victims (adult and/or child) to speak confidentially, to reduce risk associated with disclosing in front of perpetrators.</li> <li>• Family hubs have awareness-raising information around the hub about local services and the 24/7 domestic abuse helpline, such as posters on toilet doors and/or notice boards, and discreet cards available to pick up.</li> </ul>
Midwifery/maternity	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The family hub can provide a team base for midwives working in the local area to meet and work across disciplines and agencies.</li> <li>• Provide clinical and non-clinical space to enable midwifery teams based at the family hub to offer appointments there, with particular emphasis on initial booking appointment.</li> <li>• There is a confidential environment for assessments to be completed.</li> <li>• There is connection to vaccination centres (e.g., midwives can refer families to a vaccination centre).</li> <li>• Referrals to obstetric or other secondary care are available where required.</li> </ul>
Health Visiting 0-5 (inclusive of the Start for Life period)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Mandated universal reviews are offered face to face as per the Health Visitor Service Model and High Impact Areas</li> <li>• The New Birth Visit is provided in home, and other reviews including mandated offer is available in a family hub (as well as in family homes and other settings).</li> <li>• There is an ability to support confidential discussion.</li> <li>• Child health clinics are available in the hub.</li> </ul>

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Health Visitors are proactive in bringing families with highest needs / poorly served into family hubs for additional support, including group sessions and do this face to face where possible.</li> </ul>
Parenting support	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• All families should have access to a key contact within the family hub who can help them to understand the parenting support that is available to them.</li> <li>• They provide initial appropriate information to assist new and expectant parents/carers during their transition to parenthood.</li> <li>• Staff can have sensitive conversations, promote the universal open-access parenting support offer and connect families to targeted evidence-based parenting interventions (prioritising those that would benefit most).</li> <li>• There are integrated multi-agency referral pathways in place for access to peer-support and targeted community-outreach activities, as well as to targeted, evidence-based parenting programmes for new and expectant parents/carers.</li> </ul>
Early language and the Home Learning Environment	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Access to a key contact in the hub able to provide appropriate information to support parents of pre-schoolers with their HLE, identify need and connect families on to targeted evidence-based HLE interventions (prioritising those that would benefit most).</li> </ul>

## Annex 2: Terminology

**Income Deprivation Affecting Children Index (IDACI):** It is a domain of the English Indices of Deprivation. It measures the proportion of children aged 0–15 living in income deprived households within an LSOA. It is a subset of the Income Deprivation Domain used in the Index of Multiple Deprivation (IMD).

**30% Most Deprived LSOA:** This refers to those LSOAs that fall within the highest 30 percent of IDACI (2025) scores nationally. These areas represent the locations with the greatest levels of income deprivation affecting children, relative to all LSOAs in England.

**LSOA:** Lower layer Super Output Areas (LSOAs) are made up of groups of output areas, usually four or five. They comprise between 400 and 1,200 households and have a usually resident population between 1,000 and 3,000 persons. There are 33,755 LSOAs in England.

**Delivery staff:** Those who are employed to interact directly with families when delivering a service, programme or intervention. This may include roles such as an International Board-Certified Lactation Consultant (IBCLC), Speech and Language Therapist, Parenting Support Coach.

**Delivery support staff:** Those who are employed to enable the delivery of a service, programme or intervention. These staff may interact with families to enable delivery (e.g. to arrange an appointment) but not to deliver the programme or intervention themselves. This may include roles such as service specific receptionists, staff trainers, service specific programme-coordinators.

**Volunteer staff:** Staff who interact directly with families to deliver, or enable the delivery of a service, programme or intervention on a voluntary or unpaid basis.

**Employed by the LA:** These staff are employed directly by the LA

**Employed via a commissioned service:** These staff are employed by a commissioned service, including voluntary commissioned services.

**Family hub transformation staff:** Staff appointed as named leads for various specific roles or tasks to support and deliver your LAs programme and transformation. This may include roles such as programme-coordinator, change manager, data lead, support officer(s), analytical support, or digital support.

**Family hub workforce:** Staff who enable the delivery of Family hubs. These staff are primarily based at a Family Hub site and either work directly with families to deliver or support delivery of Family hubs. This may include roles such as Family hub management, family navigators, Family Hub receptionists or front of house staff.

**Programme or Intervention:** Any individual activity delivered to children and families. This may include specific formal interventions e.g. Triple P or broader activities e.g. infant feeding support.

**Unique programme or intervention/service user:** An individual who has been formally recorded as having contact with the service, programme or intervention. This may include attending an individual or group session or appointment, attending a course, etc. It does not include informal, unrecorded contact with a service, programme or intervention such as walk-in advice or enquiring about a service, programme or intervention. A 'user' can be a parent, carer, or child/young person.



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