Education Mile

November 2026



Early Years news, advice and guidance for Square Mile families and settings

Hello…

Welcome to our monthly newsletter. Our aim is to share regular local and national information for families in the City.
If you would like to find out anything further on any items or would like more advice or information, please contact the Family Information Service.
Email: EEYService@cityoflondon.gov.uk

Dolly Parton Imagination Library

Are you a City of London resident with a young child? Apply for Dolly Parton's Imagination Library and receive a free book each month to enjoy, share and explore together.
https://www.fis.cityoflondon.gov.uk/education-and-schools/early-years-0-5-education/dpil



Is Your Child Well Enough for School?

Deciding whether your child is well enough to attend school can sometimes be difficult. The Department for Education's short video, provides helpful advice for families on managing common illnesses, supporting children's health and wellbeing, and understanding when school attendance is appropriate. Watch the video in the link:
https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=kyb3_CMyWzo&t=1s



It can be tricky deciding whether your child should stay at home when they are unwell. Government guidance explains when children should stay away from nursery, playgroup or other childcare, and when it is safe for them to return.

https://www.nhs.uk/live-well/is-my-child-too-ill-for-school/

Help us shape our Best Start family Hub Network

Exciting developments are underway as we continue to build our Best Start Family Hub City of London Network, bringing services together so families can access information, advice and support more easily.

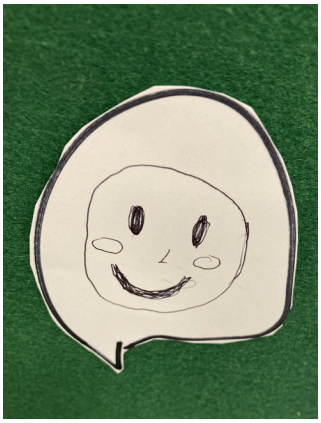
On 29 October, Hannah Dobbin, Strategy Officer, joined James Craig and Paul Ricketts at Artizan Street Library and Community Centre to put up new Family Hub signage and create a colourful consultation display inviting local families to share their ideas.

The display asks families, "What makes a welcoming family space?" Children and parents attending an after-school session were quick to get involved, sharing drawings and ideas and using words such as "imaginative", "colourful" and "creative" to describe the kind of space they would like to see.

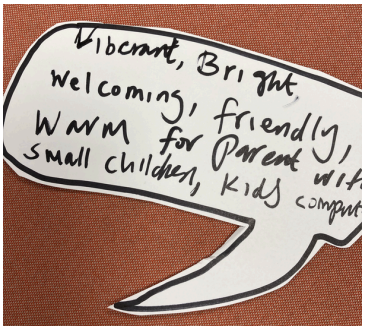
We are developing the Family Hub Network across Artizan Street Library and Community Centre, Barbican Library, Shoe Lane Library and Smithfield House Nursery. As plans develop, we want parents, children, young people and carers to help shape how these spaces look and feel and what would make them welcoming and accessible for everyone.

We have already received some lovely suggestions, and we would like to hear many more!
Don't forget to share your views by 30 November 2026.

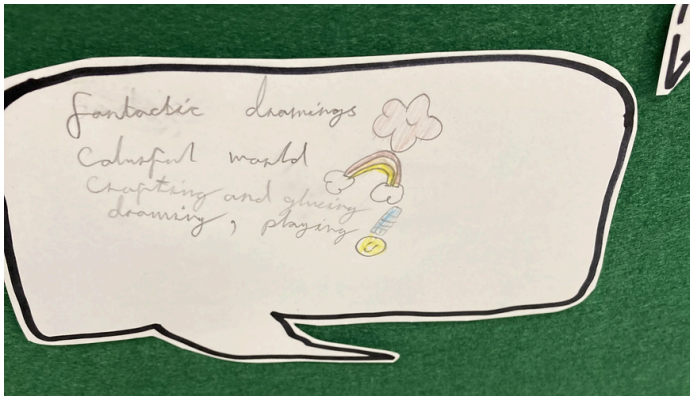












Take part and share your ideas here:
https://www.fis.cityoflondon.gov.uk/news/help-us-design-the-new-best-start-family-hub-city-of-london-network-space

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2026 CHILDCARE SURVEY

SCAN ME

Click

Are you a City of London parent or carer of a child aged 0–5? Have your say!

The City of London wants to hear about your childcare needs and experiences.

Your views will help the City understand whether there are enough suitable childcare places for local families and help shape future childcare planning.

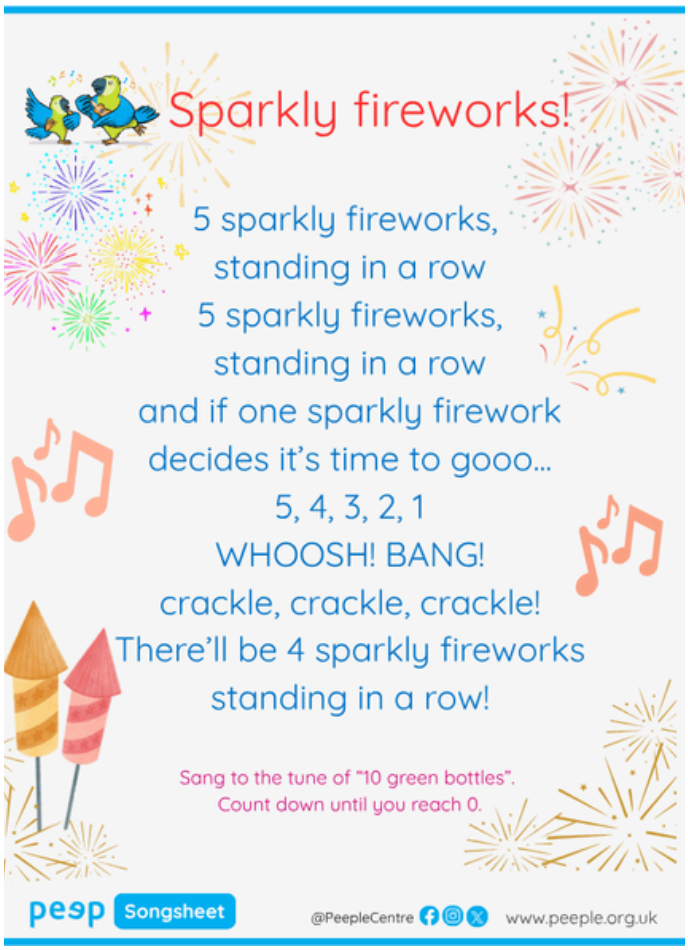
YOUR VIEWS MATTER



www.smartsurvey.co.uk/s/CoL-2026-CSA-Parents-0-5/









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