

For more information: Freephone 0800 023 4440

Visit our websites:

<http://northumberland.childrensservicedirectory.org.uk>
www.direct.gov.uk

Contact details:

Families Information Service,
Hepscott Park, Morpeth, Northumberland NE61 6NF
Monday to Thursday 9.00am - 5.00pm (4.30pm Friday)
Freephone: 0800 023 4440
Telephone: 01670 534440
Email: fis@northumberland.gov.uk
Fax: 01670 534366

If you require this document in an alternative format, including Braille, large print and other languages, please contact 0800 023 4440



Northumberland Families Information Service



Are you a parent, carer, family or young person wanting to find out about.....

- Childcare choices
- Free entitlement to early years provision for 3 and 4 year olds
- Advice on paying for childcare (including tax credits and childcare vouchers)
- Balancing childcare, work and training
- Things to do and places to go
- Children & Young People's Directory



Informing parents.... Informing families.... Informing you....

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Children's Centres are locally based and bring together health and family support services with play, learning and childcare opportunities. Children's Centres give young children a good start in life and ensure they are ready to flourish when they reach school age.

For further details drop in or telephone your local Children's Centre.

Alnwick	01665 600896	Morpeth	01670 511581
Amble	01665 713672	Newbiggin	01670 812751
Ashington	01670 819988	North Tyne	01434 220716
Bedlington	01670 822714	Pegswood	01670 505376
Berwick	01289 309734	Ponteland.....	01661 825687
Blyth Central	01670 798800	Prudhoe	01661 839350
Blyth West	01670 541150	Rothbury.....	01669 621681
Choppington	01670 829809	Seahouses	01668 283372
Coquet	01670 761496	Seaton Valley	0191 2375184
Cramlington East	01670 739528	Western Tynedale	01434 321761
Cramlington Village.....	01670 737274	Wooler	01668 283605
Cramlington West	01670 710080		
Hexham	01434 601698		
Lynemouth	01670 863010		



Choosing the right childcare

We can provide information on:

- Ofsted registered and non-registered childcare
- Childcare settings suitable for children with disabilities and special educational needs
- The free entitlement to 15 hours of early years provision for 3 & 4 year olds.

Advice on childcare costs

We can give you information and guidance about:

- Going back to Higher Education or Further Education
- Care to Learn - for teenage parents
- NHS Bursary Childcare Allowance
- Career Development Loans
- Free Early Education for 3 and 4 year olds
- Childcare Voucher Schemes
- New Deal for Lone Parents
- Disability Living Allowance for children

Brokerage service

We can provide extra assistance for those who need it:

- Help to understand the childcare system and access childcare needs
- Help to identify sources of funding and support
- Intermediary between parents and providers
- Assist parents of children who have disabilities and special educational needs to find the services they need

Tax Credit information

Our tax credit estimator is a quick and easy way to give you an indication of how working part-time, full-time, or using childcare vouchers could affect the amount of tax credits you may be entitled to:

- Child Tax Credits
- Working Tax Credits
- Childcare Vouchers

Balancing childcare, work and training

Call us on our freephone number for information on:

- Maternity leave
- Paternity leave
- Adoption leave
- Time off for dependants
- Parental leave
- Flexible working

This information and advice will enable you to make the best choices for you, your family and your employer.

Children and Young People's Directory

A one-stop shop of information on local and national activities, organisations and services.

Comprehensive information for parents of children and young people

- Education
- Employment
- Health
- Leisure
- Parenting

<http://northumberland.childrensservicedirectory.org.uk>

A network of services which the Families Information Service works alongside to support families, parents and young people in Northumberland

Sure Start Children's Centres

Sure Start brings together health and family-support services, childcare and early education for families with children under 5 years old. Each centre is a reflection of the community it serves and works with parents-to-be, parents, carers and children to promote the physical, intellectual and social development of babies and young children so that they can flourish at home and when they start school.

Children's Centres in Northumberland work with a number of partner organisations from voluntary, private and community groups and of course parents themselves, to provide integrated services for young children and their families based on local needs.

Portage Pre-school Home Teaching

This service is for children 0-4 years with special or additional needs.

- Assessment of early developmental skills and milestones
- Develops essential play, language, social, motor and self help skills
- Offers support, advice and training for parents
- Training for professionals and early years settings
- Ensures effective transitions into settings and school
- Portage organises multi-agency meetings and 'Team around the Child' meetings.
- Complete CAF assessments

Contact - Wendy Goodbarn, Head of Service 01670 534309 or Maria Humble, Admin Assistant 01670 534318
E-mail Wendy.Goodbarn@northumberland.gov.uk

School Admissions & Choice Adviser

School Admissions:

Northumberland schools take children between the ages of 4 and 19 years. Wherever possible you will be offered a place at one of your preferred schools, but this can't be guaranteed.

Many schools receive more applications than they have places to offer. Every school has an admissions limit, and this determines the number of applicants they will accept.

For more information please contact: School Admissions, Telephone (01670) 534162 Web: www.northumberland.gov.uk

Choice Adviser: Our Choice Adviser can help you to choose your preferred school place:

- Provide information on schools and catchment areas
- How to apply online
- How to complete the forms
- How to appeal if you don't get the school you prefer and advice on important deadlines.

This advice is free, independent and confidential.

Contact - Carol Storey, Choice Adviser (Schools), School Admissions Team Tel:(01670) 533664
Email: Carol.Storey@northumberland.gov.uk

Extended Services 0-19 years

The core offer of Extended Services is made up of five elements delivered through schools and partner agencies:

- childcare (in primary and special schools)
- a varied menu of activities including study support, sport and music clubs
- swift and easy access to targeted and specialist services
- parenting support including family learning
- community access to facilities including adult learning, ICT & sports facilities.

Website: www.extendedservicesncc.org.uk



The Aiming High for Disabled Children (AHDC) programme was launched in May 2007 and committed to March 2011

Its stated aim is 'to improve service provision across the board for disabled children and their families, enhancing equality and opportunity for them'.

Contact Aiming High Disabled Children Team on 01670 516131
Email: Lorraine.Pattison@northumberland.gov.uk
<http://www.northumberland.gov.uk/aiminghigh>



Disabled Children's Access to Childcare

- Supports families of disabled children/young people to access childcare in order to enable parents to return to work or training
- Supports childcare providers in their inclusion of disabled children/young people by offering in house free training, support and guidance from experienced professionals

Contact Sheila Dillon & the DCATCH Team on Tel: 01670 534496
Email: Sheila.Dillon@northumberland.gov.uk



Connexions Northumberland is a local service for young people aged 13-19 years (and up to age 25 for young people with special needs).

We are here to help them and their parents or carers with decision making about study, jobs and careers. As well as providing information on other relevant issues such as health, relationships, rights, money and housing.

To find your local Connexions please contact head office on 01670 798180
www.connexions-northumberland.org.uk



Jobcentre Plus is an executive agency of the Department for Work and Pensions

(DWP). We help unemployed people of working age into employment by hosting the UK's largest jobs database, offering training opportunities and by providing practical help and advice.

Contact Jobseeker Direct on 0845 6060234 or visit www.direct.gov.uk



THE online directory for children, parents and carers, practitioners and young people

4 ZONES 4 YOU



CHILDREN'S ZONE



YOUNG PEOPLE'S ZONE



PRACTITIONER'S ZONE



PARENT & CARER'S ZONE

General advice and information on a wide range of topics

- Positive Activities • Entertainment • Health • Employment • Safety
- Education and Training • Family and Relationships, and much more

LOG ON TO:

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Northumberland
Northumberland County Council

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