



Breastfeeding Policy

Rationale

We will support women to recognise and understand the benefits of breastfeeding in a relaxed and supportive environment.

Alwoodley, Roundhay and Moortown Children's Centre group acknowledge that every woman has the fundamental right to make the decision about how to feed her baby without feeling pressured. We will work towards ensuring that women in the local community make an informed decision about how to feed their baby, based on information and knowledge made available through the NHS.

The breastfeeding policy for Alwoodley, Roundhay and Moortown Children's Centre's works alongside the policy agreed by the local NHS trust and the Early Start Teams that provide breastfeeding services at Alwoodley, Roundhay and Moortown Children's Centres.

Aims and Strategy

- We will endeavour to increase the percentage of babies who are breastfed by promoting breastfeeding in the following ways;
 - ✓ Information available at all times in each of our Centre's.
 - ✓ Clinics and breastfeeding support group within the Children's Centre group. .
 - ✓ Breastfeeding champions and mentors.
- We will provide a caring and supportive ethos where women are supported and feel comfortable breastfeeding their child. The health benefits of breastfeeding will be made known to the mothers via literature available in the Centre's, the breastfeeding support groups and through our breastfeeding champions who will mentor new mothers.
- As part of the Early Help Team we will work closely with professionals from the NHS to ensure that staff working with new and expectant mothers have access to advice and support with their management of breastfeeding.

Responsibilities

- At Alwoodley, Roundhay and Moortown Children's Centres this policy will be shared with all staff and be part of the staff induction process. Every member of staff working at Alwoodley,



Roundhay and Moortown Children's Centres is asked to sign a declaration that that they have read understood and will abide by the policies of the Children's Centre Group.

- At Alwoodley, Roundhay and Moortown Children's Centres all staff dealing with new and expectant mothers will be made aware of the Child Protection policy and procedures at the Centre. As part of the induction process staff will be made fully aware that the expectation of the Centre is that concerns regarding the health and welfare of children will be raised with the Family Support Manager.
- At Alwoodley, Roundhay and Moortown Children's Centre's we will endeavour to prevent the advertising of breastmilk substitutes and equipment in the Centre. Breastmilk substitutes will not be made available in the Centre for sale.

Communication

At Alwoodley, Roundhay and Moortown Children's Centre's this policy will be communicated to all staff members working in the Centre, and Centre users in the following ways:

- New staff will be made aware of the policy during their induction and sign a declaration to stating that they have read and understood the policy.
- Copies of the policy can be requested from the Centre Manager. A policy folder will be located at each Children's Centre providing access to the policy by all Centre users.
- During support groups sessions and training the breastfeeding policy will be highlighted to parents and service users.

Any questions about this policy should be directed to the Centre Manager: Wendy Wooler on 0113 2170134