

BOWER GROVE PARENT SUPPORT



EARLY SUPPORT PROGRAMME

The Early Support Programme is for parents and carers of disabled children aged 5 and under. This includes support for:

- health
- education
- social care

Early Support is the Government programme to achieve better co-ordinated, family focused services for young disabled/special needs children and their families

'To find out if the Early Support Programme is running in your area, contact your local council.

If it's not yet running where you live, ask when it will be introduced.

Once you've joined the programme, a key worker will be assigned to help you.'

For more information about what is available follow the link:

<https://www.gov.uk/help-for-disabled-child> Select Early Support Programme

Early Support Leaflets and Information

Early Support has developed a range of disability-specific leaflets containing information about disabilities. These are intended as a 'first step' in informing parents about the disability and pass on information and advice from other parents.

There is also an Early Support Family Pack, which informs parents about services to support them and to help families to know what to expect by way of good service provision and what to ask for.

LOCAL INFORMATION

[For local information see the Maidstone Resource Directory. \(Updates can be found on-line, see the links on our website\)](#)

Since I put the Maidstone Resource Directory together in 2009 (please see a copy on our website) some community children's services have moved to a new centre; Heathside at Coxheath. Community paediatricians, all the therapy teams including Speech and Language, Occupational Therapy, Physiotherapy, Early Support, Child and Adolescent Mental Health team, the Wheelchair service and Paediatric Audiology, will all now be located together.

For a full description of the kind of specialists who can help and the work they do please see the Health section in the Maidstone Resource Directory (As mentioned above contact details and location may have changed)

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