

# BOWER GROVE PARENT SUPPORT



## HEALTH UPDATE

**Since I put the Maidstone Resource Directory together 2009/10 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.**

## HEALTH SERVICES

There are many Health Services which you and your child may need. If you have any concerns about your child's health or development, you can either contact your own GP, your health visitor if your child is under 5, or your school nurse.

Often, developmental issues only become apparent once a child is in a more social setting, such as a playgroup or nursery, at which point the playgroup leader may raise these issues with you. You may choose to discuss your concerns either with your own GP or health visitor or playgroup workers assigned to the playgroup/nursery. **See further information in the Early Support/Help Section.**

### **If you are worried about the progress your child is making at school or pre-school:**

You should speak to your child's teacher first. They will be able to give you an opinion on whether they think your child could have Special Educational Needs (SEN). Schools are always keen to find out if children have additional needs as early as possible. If they agree that it is possible your child needs additional help, they will take steps to provide a support plan within school for your child and they will monitor how your child progresses with this extra support. Further information is available in the Maidstone Resource Directory on our website.

## USEFUL WEBSITES:

**Kent Community Health Trust:** <http://www.kentcht.nhs.uk/#>

**NHS CHOICES:** <http://www.nhs.uk/Pages/HomePage.aspx>