

We currently provide another programme of support:

## Starting Right

Providing help and guidance on budgeting, benefits, meal planning, cooking or help with getting fitter as well as support with your child's health and well-being. You can talk to your health visitor or contact us for a self referral form Starting Right Group.

We are now offering a 8 week support group looking at improving Health and well being.

## Our Team:

Sharon Lewis - Executive Manager  
Sue Hunt - BHBF/Starting Right  
Karina Vogan - Senior Admin & Family Support

Funded By:



**Contact us for an informal chat**  
**Home-start Thanet**  
**The Kent Innovation Centre**  
**Thanet Reach Business Park**  
**Millennium Way**  
**Broadstairs**  
**Kent CT10 2QQ**  
**TEL: 01843 609665**  
**Email: [admin@homestartthanet.org.uk](mailto:admin@homestartthanet.org.uk)**

**Company No: 07194840**  
**Charity No: 1136708**  
**Registered in: England and Wales**

# Home START

Support and friendship  
for families

HOME-START  
THANET

Big Hopes Big Future  
Supporting Parents and their  
Children to be 'ready for SCHOOL'

## Information for Parents



This is a FREE service

[www.homestartthanet.org.uk](http://www.homestartthanet.org.uk)



## Everyone needs a bit of help sometimes...

At Home-Start, we know that children need a stimulating home learning environment to help them start school ready to learn and to reach their full potential.

Home-Start's **Big Hopes Big Future** programme has been designed to help you and your children get ready for the important first steps of going to school or nursery. You might want help with one, two, or all of the steps below so that your child could:

Improve speech & social development

Play and share with other children

Recognise their own name

Understand simple hygiene

Dress and put on shoes

Eat and drink unaided

Cope away from you & you from them

Use the toilet

## We can help .....

Specially trained Home-Start staff and volunteering Mentors can provide carefully chosen books, toys, and learning activities which will help you to:

Engage with your child's early learning

Establish good bedtime and morning routines

Access services like children's centres / toddler groups

Support you to use positive reinforcement and praise

Create a positive home learning environment through a range of activities

**Taking part in the BHBF programme will help you to make sure that you and your child are ready to make the change from being at home, to going to nursery or school.**

## What happens next.....

Once we receive your details we will send out a letter offering you an appointment. This will be followed by a quick phone call, and our staff member will then call round to meet with you and your child/children at home.

You can then ask any further questions you may have and find out more about what we can offer. Everybody is different and we understand this, so we will adjust our support to meet the issues YOU feel you need a helping hand with.

At the end of their 1<sup>st</sup> visit, your assigned Mentor will be asked to fill in a 'BESSI' form so that we can measure the progress your child is able to make from the beginning to the end of our support. E.g. they will ask you if your child:

- Can play with lots of children his or her own age
- Does not need help using a knife and fork

The information that we collect from BESSI is anonymous, but the statistics will allow us to show that the support has been successful. It will also help you to see the improvements your child has made towards being ready for school or nursery.

We look forward to meeting you and offering the support you may need.