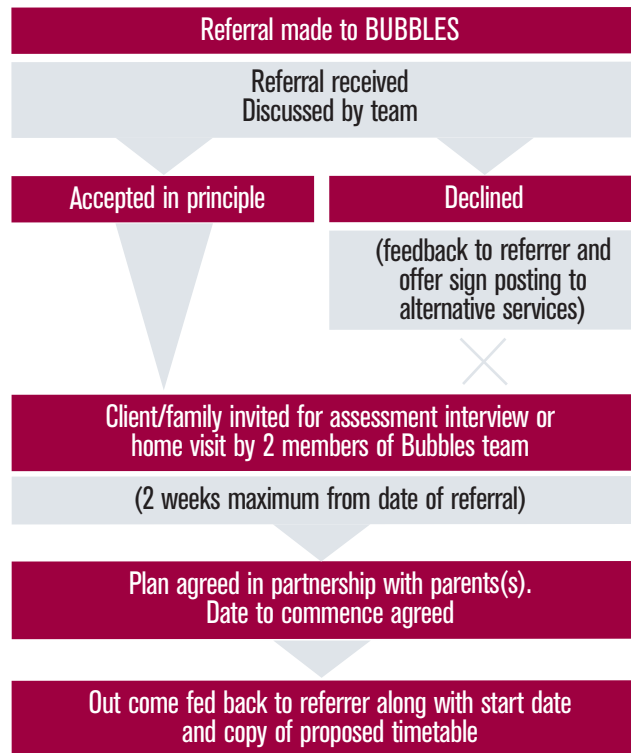


How to refer to Bubbles

Send the completed referral form to Bubbles (see back cover of this leaflet for details).

What happens next?



Within 2 weeks of receipt of the referral the Bubbles Team aim to :

- Respond to you explaining if and why the referral has been declined and offer signposting to alternative services.
- Advise you if referral accepted in principle, to have assessed the family and to have produced an individualised programme in partnership with them. If it has not been possible to achieve this within this time frame we will advise you of the reasons.
- Following this, the Bubbles team will forward to you the proposed programme in a 'time table' format and you will be advised of the intended start date.

Bubbles Team Contact list

Lifeline Community Drugs Service (CDS):
0208 985 3757 (ask for the women's service)

Marilyn O'Donoghue (Health Visitor):
07968 868 661

Nikki Moore (Midwife):
07786 250 915 or 0208 510 7805

Patricia Darby (Mentor Mum):
07940 400 599

Celia Jeffereys (Midwife):
07786 198 320

Other Contact:

Bubbles Team Venue details

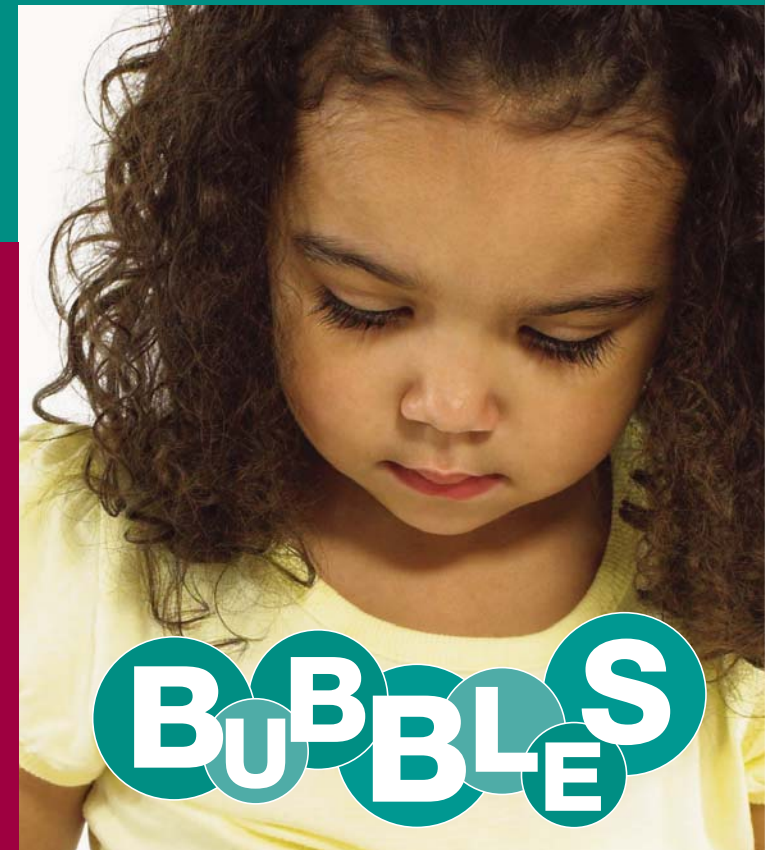
Sebright Children's Centre:
Haggerston Park, Queensbridge Road
Hackney E2 8NP
Tel: 0207 749 1210

Ann Tayler Children's Centre:
1-13 Triangle Road
Hackney E2 3RP
Tel: 0207 275 6020

Comet Children's Centre:
21 Halcomb Street
Hackney N1 5RF
Tel: 0207 729 0936

Bubbles: A Guide for Referrers

A Community Based Specialist Parenting Programme



About the programme

Bubbles is a community based programme created for parents who need support with drug and alcohol treatment and parenting, especially where this forms part of a Child Protection Plan.

Priority is given to those families with babies under the age of 3 months. Women only group therapy (which addresses drug and alcohol use issues) is offered as part of the programme. Mothers of new borns are able to have their baby with them during this session and so do not have to compromise their bond or breastfeeding by unnecessary separation in the early weeks.

Once a child reaches the age of 3 months local drug and alcohol services are able to provide creche facilities to allow women to attend more general group therapy. Bubbles otherwise aims to support parents to engage with their usual drug and alcohol treatment provider .



The programme contains a range of elements including weekly sessions that take place at Children's Centres within the borough. The Bubbles team will plan in partnership with the family an individual timetable that takes into account other commitments such as Health and Social Care appointments. Allocated Social Workers are encouraged to consult this timetable when working with the family.

Protecting your children

The Philosophy of Bubbles is that all families have strengths and the team aims to work with families to identify and develop these strengths. Families are also encouraged and supported to make use of other family services in their area such as their local Children's Centre.

The attendance and progress of each family on the programme is monitored and reported on (monthly) using the Comon Assessment Framework. A final report is provided to the referrer on completion of the 3 month programme. Each family will be supported to create a Future Family Plan which can include things such as;

- Plans to engage in further parenting programmes
- Plans for engagement with other relevant services such as their local Childrens' Centre.
- Plans for developing relationships with wider family or community
- Plans to work towards returning to the programme as a mentor family

Who is eligible for referral?

- Families with issues of parental drug and/or alcohol misuse who are able to engage in drug and alcohol treatment or abstinence support programmes.
- Families who have parental responsibility for their child(ren).
- Families who require parenting support and monitoring of their progress.
- Families whose Child(ren) are subject to a Child in Need or Child Protection Plan.
- Families who are resident within the Borough of Hackney
- Priority is given to families with child(ren) aged 0-3months.
- Priority is given to referrals from Children's Social Care.
- Antenatal referrals will be considered as expectant families can drop-in to a selection of the core sessions.* Families will require a written letter of recommendation from their drug and alcohol treatment provider to confirm the appropriateness of the referral.

If you are unsure regarding the suitability of a family for the programme please contact the Bubbles team to discuss.

* Antenatal clients will need to be 'stable' in their drug and alcohol use/treatment as Bubbles has a duty of care to those families with children who are engaged in the programme and will not compromise their safety or progress by introducing any one who could potentially destabilise the group.

