

# Roundabout and City View East Sure Start Children's Centres

Annual Performance Report 2008/09







## Introduction



This report is a summary of the self evaluation we carry out every year to help us plan the work of Roundabout Sure Start Children's Centre in Whitehawk and City View East Sure Start Children's Centre, a gateway centre based at Brighton General Hospital. The centres aim to meet the needs of our local communities with both outreach home visiting and children's centre based activities. Roundabout Children's Centre is well-established and provides a wide variety of groups and activities to the local community. Roundabout Nursery offers childcare and early learning to a large number of children through a range of flexible sessions.

We hope that you can take time to read this report, whether you are a parent, carer, someone who works with the children's centres or have other interests in this vital area of work. If you would like to find out more about us or give some feedback please contact Roundabout Children's Centre on 01273 290300.



## Our goals and approach

“We want to ensure all our children and young people have the best possible start in life, so that everyone has the opportunity to fulfil their potential, whatever that might be”

(Brighton & Hove Children and Young People’s Trust ‘Children and Young People’s Plan 2006-09’)



The children’s centre team works with parents and carers to improve the lives of all young children with a strong focus on those who are most at risk of poor outcomes.

There are 618 children under five in the Roundabout area, of whom 37% are targeted to receive additional support.

From October to December 2008 43% of targeted children were seen and 29% of other children were seen. In the City View east area there are 814 children under five, of whom 24% are targeted to receive additional support. From October to December 2008 58% of targeted children were seen and 28% of other children were seen. This is in line with our expectations for the Child Health Promotion Programme. All children are seen as young babies, and at one year, and parents are encouraged to attend the relevant groups and activities at the children’s centres. Families with additional identified needs receive a higher level of service, mostly by home visiting.





## Last year our top priorities were to:



- **Improve links between Roundabout Children's Centre and Roundabout Nursery:** we now have regular meetings between nursery and children's centre staff and nurture groups are being co-run by the nursery Special Educational Needs Coordinator and children's centre nursery nurse
- **Develop a parent involvement strategy and volunteering policy:** a volunteering policy is being used across the city and during February 2009 parents were trained to help them contribute to the children's centre advisory groups
- **Develop the services run from City View Children's Centre:** this opened in March 2008
- **Achieve better data quality:** we have improved recording what we do so that we can monitor the impact of our work



# Be healthy



The Child Health Promotion Programme for all children under five is key to ensuring children are healthy. The children's centre team assesses children's needs and provides additional support for families who need it. We provide support for breastfeeding and advice about immunisation, as well as information on health promotion, diet and exercise, dental health, smoking cessation and health and safety. We also work with a team of midwives based at Roundabout Children's Centre. We offer health advice and parenting support in people's homes and in groups at the centre.

## Our be healthy performance

January – December 2008:

- 58% of infants in the Roundabout area and 71% in the City View east area were breastfed at 6-8 weeks from birth, compared with the city average of 67%
- 13% of reception year children in the Roundabout area and 10% in the City View east area were obese, compared with the city average of 8%

## Last year

Our be healthy activities included:

- **Specialist breastfeeding support from an early years visitor**, who worked across the east area offering antenatal sessions and attending health matters groups at Roundabout and City View Children's Centres. Individual support was also given to breastfeeding mothers
- **Roundabout Nursery**, which provided healthy food throughout the day and ensured children had access to a variety of physical activities and outside space in all weather
- **Health Matters**, a weekly group provided breastfeeding advice and baby massage for babies from birth to 12 months

## This year

Our be healthy priorities are to:

- Develop a breastfeeding project to support areas of high priority for breastfeeding education
- Review action points from the obesity strategy to ensure we are in line with city-wide approaches to tackling obesity

## Stay safe



We aim to keep children safe through the Child Health Promotion Programme which provides health promotion and advice to all families and enhanced services to those most in need. Advice about health and safety hazards in and outside the home, hygiene and accident prevention is a core aspect of the work of health visitors and early years visitors. We also work closely with others to ensure children are safeguarded and protected from harm and provide parents with help and support to manage during difficult times.

### Our stay safe performance

January – December 2008:

- 44% of children under five in the Roundabout area and 34% in the City View east area attended Accident and Emergency at the Royal Sussex County Hospital at least once, compared with the city average of 26%

### Last year

Our stay safe activities included:

- **Nurture group**, which was run by a community nursery nurse and early years visitor to address anti-social behaviour when first identified
- **Behaviour group**, which was facilitated by two early years visitors to improve common childhood behavioural problems
- **Roundabout Nursery**, a safe space where children could express and recognise their feelings. We provided funding for children with additional needs to attend two sessions per week at the nursery

### This year

Our stay safe priorities are to:

- Work more closely with other services using the Common Assessment Framework and the Team Around the Child/Family approach
- Provide additional childcare places for children with identified additional needs



## Roundabout and City View Children's Centres Location map

Roundabout Children's Centre  
Whitehawk Road  
Brighton  
BN2 5FL  
Tel: 01273 290300

City View Children's Centre  
Brighton General Hospital  
Elm Grove  
Brighton  
BN2 3EW  
Tel: 01273 265890



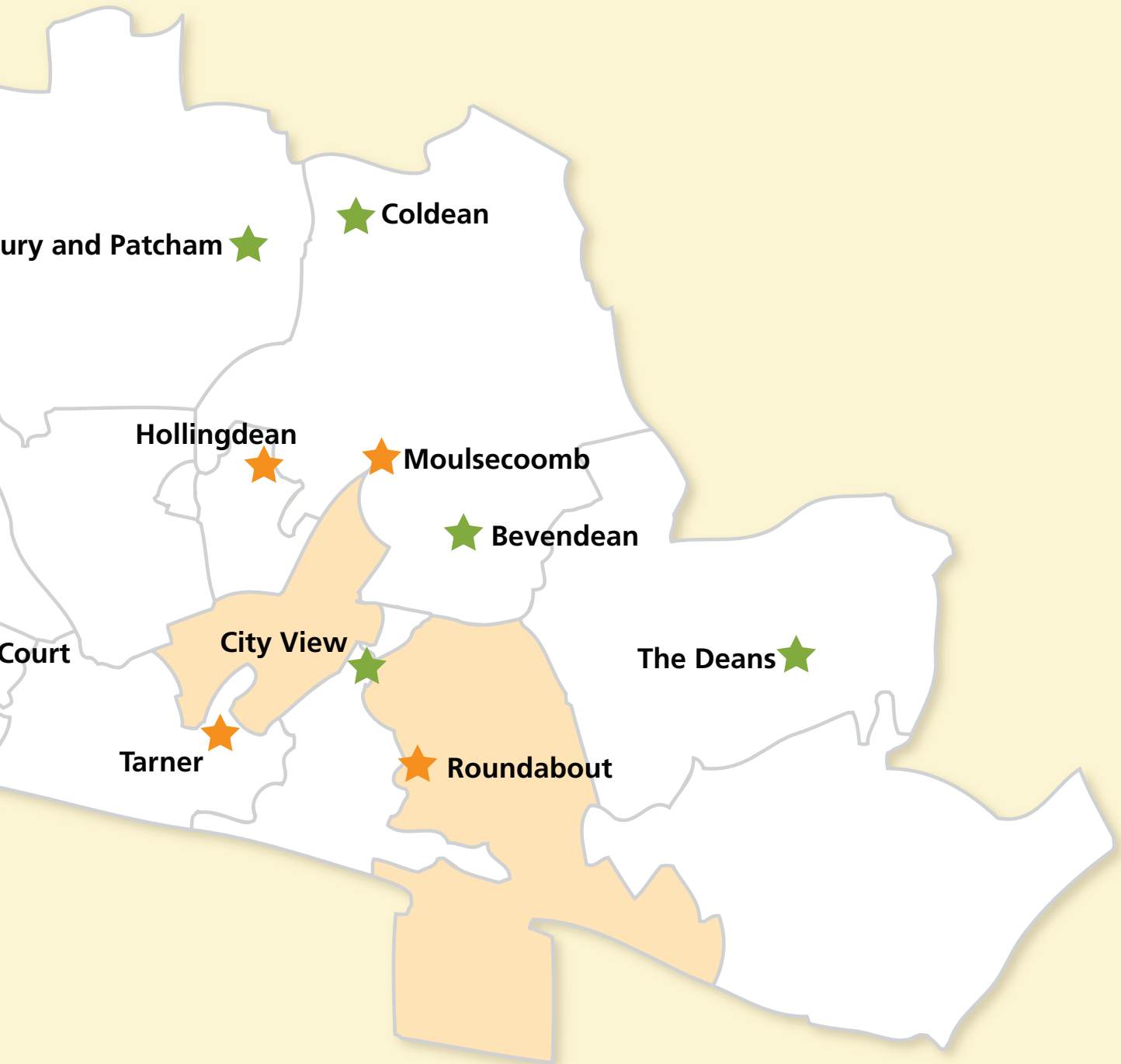
★ Children's Centre (Hub)

★ Children's Centre (Gateway)





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# Enjoy and achieve



Both children's centres are accessible and well equipped for all our service users including those who are disabled.

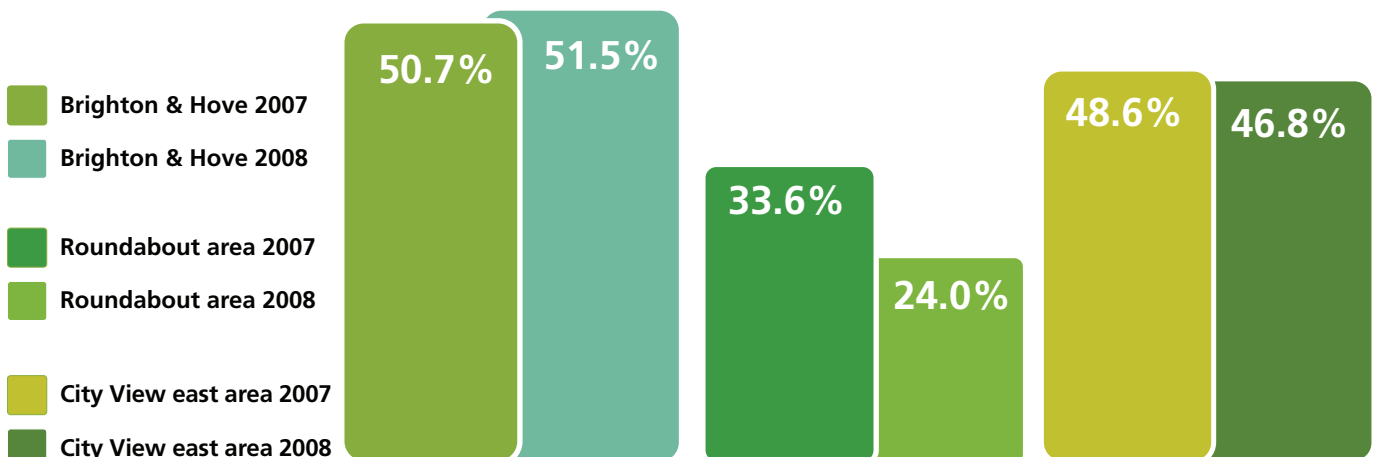
Roundabout Nursery follows the Early Years Foundation Stage and children's learning needs are planned on an individual basis.

Speech and language therapists are based at Roundabout Children's Centre and offer regular appointments and home visits to families to support their children's speech development. There are a range of other early years providers in the area who offer free early learning to three and four year olds.

## Our enjoy and achieve performance

Our enjoy and achieve performance data is based on the Early Years Foundation Stage Profile which describes each child's development and learning achievements at the end of the reception year at school.

## Achieving a good score in the Early Years Foundation stage





## Last year

Our enjoy and achieve activities included:

- **Roundabout Nursery**, an integral part of the children's centre provided early learning for children aged three months to four years. The staff worked hard to narrow the gap between the achievements of children with additional needs and their peers
- **Childminder drop-in at City View Children's Centre**, which was well attended and provided a welcoming inside and outside activity space for the children
- **Family fun days**, at Roundabout Children's Centre during the school holidays which were very well attended by families from the local community

## This year

Our enjoy and achieve priorities are to:

- Work with city-wide early years services, local schools, other early years settings and childminder networks to narrow the gap in outcomes for the most disadvantaged young children
- Promote the importance of the home learning environment to parents and carers
- Support the transition process for children moving on from Roundabout Nursery to school
- Support families living around City View Children's Centre to access the groups and activities. Family fun days planned for spring and summer 2009



# Make a positive contribution



We are committed to giving parents a voice in the development of the children’s centres. Our children’s centre advisory group meets every two months and includes three parents and other members of the local community.

## Our make a positive contribution performance

January – December 2008:

In a survey at Roundabout Children’s Centre 90% of parents said that the centre was ‘friendly’ or ‘very friendly’ and 88% said that they found help and information ‘easy’ or ‘very easy’ to obtain on arrival

### Last year

Our make a positive contribution activities included:

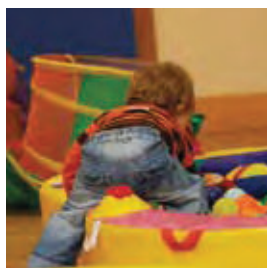
- **Volunteering opportunities in the children’s centres were expanded**, including attending and contributing to the children’s centre advisory group
- **PROUD, a Parent Run Organisation Understanding Difficulties**, was a very successful group that facilitated able-bodied parents to provide support and play activities for children of parents with a range of difficulties
- **‘Listening to Children’ project**, which provided opportunities for young children to express their views about Roundabout Children’s Centre

### This year

Our make a positive contribution priorities are to:

- Encourage parents from the City View area to sit on the children’s centre advisory group
- Implement findings from the ‘Listening to Children’ project
- Develop a robust evaluation system to improve the way we evaluate customer satisfaction

# Achieve economic well-being



We support parents in many ways in the journey towards training and employment. Much of the group work focuses on building self-esteem and social skills which are an essential starting point for many people. The role of the early years visitors in supporting parents to access groups and activities is very important. We also encourage parents to become involved in volunteering at the centres and signpost to training and employment opportunities.

## Last year

**Our achieve economic well-being activities included:**

- **Roundabout Nursery**, which provided childcare for a high number of fee paying parents. The flexible sessions allowed parents to seek part-time work with affordable childcare in place
- **Anti-poverty workshop**, which took place in March 2008 to raise the profile of the impact on poverty on outcomes for children and was attended by all those working with children under five across the city

## Our achieve economic well-being performance

- In 2006 11% of low income families in the Roundabout area and 20% in the City View east area took up formal childcare, compared with the city average of 19%
- In 2006 47% of children in the Roundabout area and 26% in the City View east area lived in households dependent on workless benefits, compared with the city average of 21%
- In 2008 23% of teenage mothers aged 16-19 in the Roundabout area and 40% in the City View east area were in education, employment or training, compared with the city average of 34%

## This year

**Our achieve economic well-being priorities are to:**

- Develop better links with Whitehawk Inn and Job Centre Plus for access to training and employment initiatives
- Develop volunteering opportunities



## Excluded groups



Our teams of health visitors and early years visitors work with families facing difficulties including being excluded from mainstream society through lack of money, ill-health and disability, not speaking English as a

first language and substance misuse. We provide support in these families' homes as well as encouraging them to use our services and take part in activities at the centres to get the support they need to raise their children.

### Last year

**Our work with families from excluded groups included:**

- **Roundabout Nursery**, which was extremely successful at including a range of children who may have been compromised due to the levels of poverty in the area. The nursery also worked closely with the Ethnic Minority Achievement Service to support children whose first language was not English to enjoy nursery activities using their own language. Roundabout Nursery also worked with the Pre-School Special Educational Needs Service to support children with special needs in the nursery
- **MOSAIC**, which ran a weekly session at Roundabout Children's Centre for families with parents who were black, Asian, mixed heritage and Romany gypsies
- **Teenage Parents**, who were supported by a specialist team

which offered them an enhanced targeted service. There was also a midwife for teenage parents who referred parents to the health visitor as appropriate. Teenage parents were encouraged to attend children's centre activities

### This year

**Our priorities for working with families from excluded groups are to:**

- Ensure effective liaison between Seaside View Child Development Centre and the children's centres to support disabled children
- Expand the specialist teenage parent team
- Promote the children's centres to ensure that all families are aware of the services available



# Contact us

Roundabout Children's Centre  
Whitehawk Road  
Brighton  
BN2 5FL  
Tel: 01273 290300  
Email: roundaboutcc@brighton-hove.gov.uk

City View Children's Centre  
Brighton General Hospital  
Elm Grove  
Brighton  
BN2 3EW  
Tel: 01273 265890  
Email: roundaboutcc@brighton-hove.gov.uk

Family Information Service  
Tel: 01273 293545  
Email: familyinfo@brighton-hove.gov.uk

**Translation? Tick this box and take to any council office.**

ترجمة؟ ضع علامة في المربع وخذها إلى مكتب البلدية.	Arabic	<input type="checkbox"/>
অনুবাদ? বক্সে টিক চিহ্ন দিয়ে কাউন্সিল অফিসে নিয়ে যান।	Bengali	<input type="checkbox"/>
需要翻譯? 請在這方格內加劃, 並送回任何市議會的辦事處。	Cantonese	<input type="checkbox"/>
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Traduction? Veuillez cocher la case et apporter au council.	French	<input type="checkbox"/>
需要翻譯? 請在這方格內划勾, 并送回任何市议会的办事处。	Mandarin	<input type="checkbox"/>
Tłumaczenie? Zaznacz to okienko i zwróć do któregośkolwiek biura samorządu lokalnego (council office).	Polish	<input type="checkbox"/>
Tradução? Coloque um visto na quadrícula e leve a uma qualquer repartição de poder local (council office).	Portuguese	<input type="checkbox"/>
Tercümesi için kareyi işaretleyiniz ve bir semt belediye bürosuna veriniz	Turkish	<input type="checkbox"/>
	other (please state)	<input type="checkbox"/>

This can also be made available in large print, Braille or on audio tape