

## About the Child and Family Support Forum

The Child and Family Support Forum exists to...

- Recognise the needs of children and families in Manchester
- Develop understanding of the role of voluntary and community groups in improving the quality of life of children and families
- Highlight the needs of a sustainable voluntary and community sector
- Improve access to services and choices for children and families
- Promote the rights of children
- Recognise and respond to the needs of parents
- Promote the role of families (of all kinds) in the diverse communities in Manchester
- Recognise that the agendas of children, young people, parents, grandparents, community groups and voluntary organisations are distinct though they often have much in common
- Support the involvement of groups in a range of decision making structures such as the Manchester Partnership (LSP)

We do this by...

- Sharing knowledge and information
- Providing support and guidance on policy issues
- Working to resolve issues of common concern
- Gathering evidence of the voluntary sector's contribution to community renewal
- Linking into local planning structures

The Forum holds regular meetings and events to gather a range of views from voluntary groups and the wider community.

We have links with Manchester City Council, the local NHS and other agencies where we can use our influence to improve services and support for children and families in Manchester.

If you would like to get involved, please contact us - the more voices we have, the louder we can shout!

*The Child and Family Support Forum is part of the Community Network for Manchester. To find out more about the Network visit [www.cn4m.net](http://www.cn4m.net)*