

Education Welfare – Supporting EAL and migrant families in Barnsley



**Education Welfare Service
Barnsley Council**



BARNSLEY
Metropolitan Borough Council

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Education Welfare Service

The government definition:

The Education Welfare service work in partnership with schools and families to help improve school attendance and support families. We can also support you with applications to schools for your child and advise you of your nearest school. We are here to help your children attend and access education. We strive for every child to have 100% attendance at school and achieve their academic potential.

Children missing education

Children missing education are children who aren't registered pupils at a school and aren't receiving a suitable education. Children missing education are at significant risk of underachieving, being victims of hidden harm, exploitation or radicalisation and becoming NEET (Not in Education, Employment or Training) later in life.

Children missing from education may have been registered at a school and identified as missing through their non-attendance, which is why you MUST let your child's school know if you are leaving the country and provide evidence, such as flight details, new school and new address. Children missing education may also have moved into or been found in the area without a school place.

School attendance and inclusion

As a parent, you're legally responsible for making sure your child gets a full-time education once they turn five years of age and until they are 16 years old.

Once your child starts school, you are responsible for making sure that they attend every day unless they have a valid reason for missing school – this could be because they are too ill to attend or have a medical appointment that cannot be arranged outside school hours. If your child cannot attend school for any reason, you must contact the school and let them know. Likewise, if your child is leaving the country, you must inform the school and provide a forwarding address and flight details.

Apply for a school place at barnsley.gov.uk/services/children-families-and-education/schools-and-learning/school-admissions-and-transfers.

Admission contact:

Please email admissions@barnsley.gov.uk or call **(01226) 773 689, 773 677 or 773 588**.

If you want to discuss attendance further, please speak to your school attendance officer or ask to speak to the Education Welfare Officer.



Family Centres and early help

Throughout Barnsley, we have a range of Family Centres which provide joined-up early help services for children from pre-birth up to 19 years or 25 years if your child has a disability.

Family Centres offer a variety of services:

- Helping children prepare for school
- Helping parents and carers develop parenting skills
- Helping parents and carers develop personal skills, access to training and education, as well as enhancing employment prospects
- Helping parents and carers keep children safe, achieve their full potential and reduce inequalities in their health and development

Family Centres in Barnsley bring together a range of practitioners such as schools, police, social care, private and voluntary sector, as well as some adult services. Early help services are also coordinated and delivered throughout Barnsley Family Centres.

A list of local Family Centres can be found on our website at: barnsley.gov.uk/familycentres

Nursery and early education

From the term your child turns two, some families are eligible for free and flexible childcare, known as free early education. This allows you 15 hours a week of free childcare during term time. You can also request a stretched offer which allows you fewer hours during the week but allows you to cover school holiday periods.

Accessing free early education can give your child a great start in life, allowing them to make new friends and learn new skills. It also allows you to work, train or even have some time for yourself.

The following childcare settings are available:

- Day nurseries, pre-school and playgroups – cater for 0–5-year-olds.
- Childminders – childcare in the childminder's own home for more than two hours a day and will cater for children from birth.
- Family Centres – provide childcare for funded two, three and four-year-olds.

To apply or request more information, please contact the Families Information Service (FIS) on **0800 0345 340**.

Online parenting courses

Free online parenting courses are available for everyone interested in becoming a parent or supporting a child, whether they are parents, relatives or friends.

Courses consist of small modules you can work through in your own time. Modules last an average of 20 minutes and include activities, quizzes, videos, practical handouts and voiceovers. You can access courses on various devices, such as PCs, Macs, laptops, mobiles and tablets.

Courses are available in the following languages: English, Urdu, Polish, Welsh, Bulgarian, Chinese and Arabic. To access the courses, go to inourplace.heiapply.com/online-learning and enter the free code:

TOWNSPIRIT.





Health

Register with a dentist

Dentists diagnose and treat problems with teeth, gums and related parts of the mouth. They provide advice and instruction on taking care of teeth and gums and dietary choices that affect oral health. It is important to attend any appointments and let the dentist know in advance if you cannot attend an appointment.

To find your nearest dentist, go to nhs.uk/service-search/find-a-dentist and type in your postcode.

Register with a GP

GPs treat all common medical conditions and refer patients to hospitals and other medical services for urgent and specialist treatment. It is important to attend all GP appointments and let them know in advance if you cannot make your appointment.

To find your nearest GP, go to nhs.uk/service-search/find-a-gp and type in your postcode. From here, you can contact the GP with the phone number provided to ask if they are taking on patients.

If your child attends the dentist or doctors during school time, please inform your school and please provide an appointment card for your appointment. Please make appointments outside of school hours where possible.

0-19 service

Barnsley's 0-19 Public Health Nursing Service is a service for children and young people up to 19 years old. It prioritises children, young people and their families health and wellbeing.

You can contact the 0-19 health service on **01226 774411** or ask your local school to be referred to the 0-19 health service.

Within this service is the health visiting service, a team of health visitors who are trained nurses or midwives with specialist training in family and community health. They work with families to help improve health and wellbeing. Families will usually see health visitors or midwives when having a new baby.

IAPT

Barnsley IAPT (Improving access to psychological therapies) is a free service to support adults' mental health and wellbeing.

They can help you to:

- Address current problems.
- Gain a new understanding of your difficulties and develop new ways of coping.
- Make changes and discuss your difficulties in a non-judgemental and supportive environment.

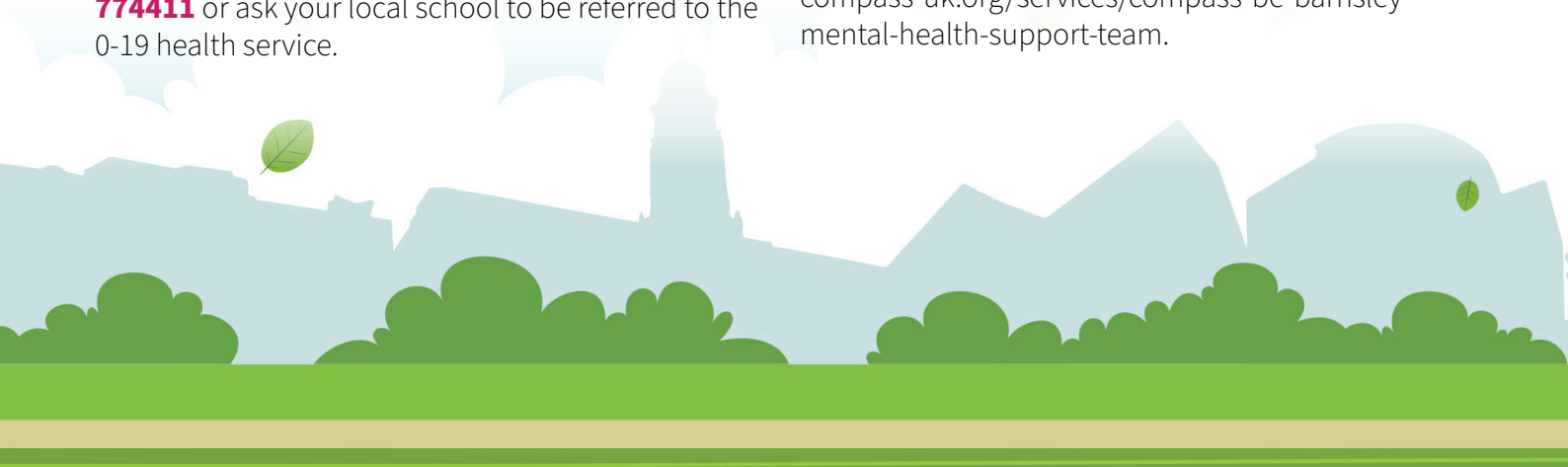
You can contact IAPT ON **01226 644900** (Monday-Friday, 9am-5pm) or visit their website: barnsleyiapt.co.uk

Compass

Barnsley Mental Health Support Team (MHST) works with children, young people, and families in education settings in Barnsley.

They provide free, confidential support, help and advice for pupils, students and schools for issues related to mental health and emotional wellbeing.

You can contact Compass on **01226 107 377** (Monday-Friday, 9am-5pm) or visit their website: compass-uk.org/services/compass-be-barnsley-mental-health-support-team.



Berneslai Homes

Berneslai homes deliver social housing on behalf of Barnsley Council. If you're a home seeker, you can contact Berneslai Homes to be placed on the housing register.

If you already have a house with Berneslai Homes, you can get help managing, starting, or ending your tenancy or report an issue about the property.

You can call Berneslai Homes with any enquiries on **01226 78 78 78** (Monday-Friday, 9am-5pm) or email **customerservices@berneslaihomes.co.uk**

The homelessness team at The Civic Barnsley Council offers support and help whether you're homeless or worried about becoming homeless. We'll give you advice based on your circumstances.

There are lots of services to help you stay in your current home. If that's not an option, we can help you to find a different home.

Visit **barnsley.gov.uk/services/housing/homeless-and-housing-advice** for more information and contact details.

Private landlord – complaints or issues

You can complain about your landlord if they're doing something wrong or you're unhappy with their behaviour. For example, if:

- they aren't doing repairs they're responsible for
- they're harassing you - for example, by entering your home without your permission
- they discriminate against you - for example, by charging you a higher rent or deposit than other tenants because of your nationality, race, age or sex.

It's best to speak to your landlord first to solve your problem. If this doesn't help, there are other steps you can take to complain.

If it's an emergency, like being illegally evicted or threatened with violence, you should call the police on 999 immediately.

Please visit the Citizen's Advice website for more information: **citizensadvice.org.uk/housing/renting-privately/during-your-tenancy/complaining-about-your-landlord**

For more information on subletting, go to **citizensadvice.org.uk/housing/renting-a-home/subletting-and-lodging/subletting**

Overcrowding

Overcrowding is when there are too many people living in one household. A household is overcrowded if it has fewer bedrooms than it needs to avoid undesirable sharing based on the age, sex and relationship of household members.

You can apply to the council for housing if your home is overcrowded. You usually have to wait for a suitably sized home and waiting times can be longer where there's not enough housing.

You can ask the council for homelessness help if it's not reasonable for you to continue living in your home because of overcrowding.

For more information on overcrowding, go to **england.shelter.org.uk/housing_advice/repairs/check_if_your_home_is_overcrowded_by_law**

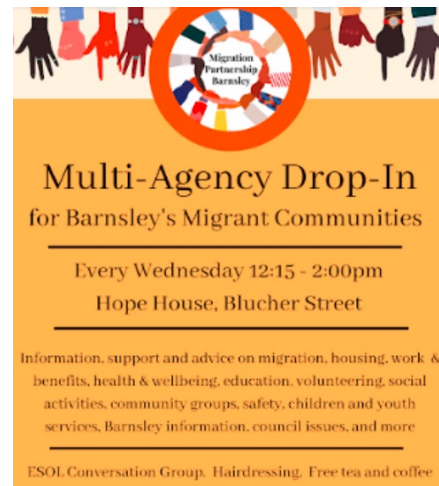


Community support

Migration Partnership - every Wednesday, 12.15pm-2pm, at Hope House, Blucher Street

The Migration Partnership (a collaboration of Migrant Action, Feels Like Home, The Polish Library and ELSH) offers a weekly drop-in session for all EAL and migrant families to attend. The new multi-agency hub drop-in (weekly) at Hope House Church provides a practical and safe space for collaborative service delivery and better access of holistic service provision in Barnsley.

Email polskabib@gmail.com or migrationpartnershipbarnsley@gmail.com



Refugee Council:

Drop in to talk to the Refugee Council,
23 Queens Road, S71 1AN

- Mondays 10am-1pm
- Tuesdays 1pm-4pm
- Thursdays 10am-1pm

The refugee council support with:

- asylum issues
- welfare benefits
- housing
- healthcare
- ESOL - language support
- education
- community development activities
- volunteering

Adult education

Barnsley offers Adult Skills and Community Learning with the following courses: creative wellbeing, employability, English, English for speakers of other languages, health and social care, IT and digital skills, maths, positive thinking and working with children and families. All courses are delivered in a friendly and supportive environment and cater for all levels of learners from beginners through to advanced.

For more information, go to barnsley.gov.uk/services/adult-skills-and-community-learning/english-for-speakers-of-other-languages-esol

Citizen's Advice

Citizen's Advice is an independent organisation specialising in advice to assist people with legal, debt, consumer, housing and other problems in the United Kingdom. They can help with applying for EU Settlement Scheme, bringing family to the UK, applying for British citizenship, benefits, services and your immigration status, problems with a visa, asylum and refugees

You can call Citizen's Advice on **0800 144 8848** or visit their website: citizensadvice.org.uk





Contact numbers and useful links

Education Welfare Service - my.barnsley.gov.uk/form/Education-welfare-enquiry/your-details

Family Information Service – 0800 0345 340

Early Help - barnsley.gov.uk/services/children-families-and-education/early-help-for-families

Children's Social Care – 01226 772423 (if a child is in immediate danger, call 999 or 0114 220 20 20)

Reporting hate crimes – 101 or 999 in an emergency

Sleep and anxiety advice - cerebra.org.uk/get-advice-support/sleep-advice-service

Childline – 0800 1111 or childline.org.uk

CAMHS (Children and young people Mental Health service) – 01226 644829

Mental health support (TADS) – 01226 872 120 or heyletstalk.org

Domestic abuse support (IDAS) - 03000 110 110 or idas.org.uk

Sexual abuse support (BSARCS) - 01226 320 140 or bsarcs.org.uk

LGBTQ+ Support - 0114 241 2728 or sayit.org.uk

Internet safety - thinkuknow.co.uk, parentzone.org.uk or internetmatters.org.

If you wish to discuss the information outlined in this booklet, please contact any of the following team members

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