

London Borough of Sutton



**People Directorate
Integrated Services for Young Children
Education and Early Intervention**

Your Ref:

Direct Line: 020 8770 7252

My Ref:

Date: 15th January 2016

e-mail: sarah.duggan@sutton.gov.uk

Please reply to:
Integrated Services for Young
Children
Sutton Youth Centre – 1st
Floor
Robin Hood Lane
Sutton
Surrey
SM1 2SD
DxNo 56408 Sutton 1

Re: Closure of the Resource Centre

Dear Parents and Colleagues,

I am writing to advise that due to unprecedented budget cuts and the subsequent level of savings which the borough has to make in the next four years, the decision has been taken to close the separate bespoke Resource Centre with effect of the 31st March 2016 and to deliver access to the resources in a different way.

As I am sure you will appreciate this has not been an easy decision and a number of alternative options have been explored. However given the savings required, moving the service to alternative model of delivery was judged the most viable option.

The Local Authority are keen to ensure that children with additional needs continue to benefit from access to specialist resources and equipment. With this in mind we have secured some storage space at Tweeddale Children's Centre which will be able to store a number of the specialist toys and activities for continued use.

These resources will be available for loan from the beginning of May 2016. We regret that this will result in a temporary period of no access during April but we need time to physically complete the re-organisation. We anticipate that access to the specialist resources at Tweeddale will be available Monday to Friday 9am - 5pm and will be administered by the Children's Centre staff. A letter will be sent to all eligible parents and carers with details in the coming weeks.

Over the coming weeks, officers will begin relocating the remaining equipment and closure. In order for this work to take place the final date for loans will be 28th January

2016 with all items due for return by no later than 1st March 2016.

We appreciate that the resource centre has served educational establishments and those who care for and work with children with additional needs for a number of years, during which time it has provided a proactive service to its customers, in providing a range of activities and resources to support the development of young children. Jackie Gibbins has been instrumental to this and I would like to take this opportunity to acknowledge her hard work and thank her for this and the commitment and passion she has demonstrated in her work over the years.

Lastly I would like to thank you all for the support that you have given and continue to give to young children in the borough and although the resource centre will no longer be available to a number of you, I have no doubt that the children within your care will continue to receive excellent care and stimulation.

Yours Sincerely,

Sarah Duggan

Early Intervention Manager
Integrated Services for Young Children

*Strategic Director Children,
Young People and
Learning Directorate*
Tolis Vouyioukas

Chief Executive
Niall Bolger