

Dear Children's Centre Users

It is with a heavy heart that I write to tell you that from 30th March Children's Centre services in Hythe will no longer be run by Hythe Bay Church of England Primary School. The Local Authority has decided to discontinue commissioning schools and other organisations to run these services for them in Shepway. So from 31st March all Shepway Children's Centres will be run as internal provision managed by a Local Authority District Team.

This will **NOT** affect the Hythe Bay Nursery or After School Clubs, these services will continue to run as usual.

We have been informed that the Children's Centres are **NOT** shutting and that provision will continue to be offered in the immediate locality, but probably not from our site, here at Hythe Bay. The proposal is that some existing staff will be employed by the District Team. The intention is that the new arrangement will not impact on families or reduce any service provision.

Naturally, we are all devastated that Shirley and her excellent team will no longer be working for Hythe Bay. We are currently exploring options to continue to provide some of our services and groups through the Charitable Incorporated Organisation to which our Nursery and Out of School Club belong. These plans will be reliant upon sourcing additional funding and or generating income. If you are interested in continuing to use some of our services, talk to Shirley and her team, we would love to hear your ideas.

This is a very sad day for Hythe Bay, we have been supporting families through the Centre since 2000. Thank you all for your continued support, we know from your comments and letters that you really appreciate the services we have offered. Join me also in thanking our marvellous staff who have worked tirelessly with local families in Hythe and the surrounding areas, improving the lives of our children.

Yours sincerely

Carolyn Chivers Headteacher