

Emergency accommodation

Children and young people

This information sheet contains information for parents of pre-school and school aged children who are homeless and have been provided with emergency accommodation.

How can I find a new school?

You may need to find a different school for your child if it is too far for them to travel to their existing school. Contact your new local authority (council) schools admissions team for details of schools in the area and how to make an application. You will also be able to find out about schools and how to apply on the local authority website. If you are applying for a school place in a year group other than the normal intake year to primary or secondary school, you will need to complete an in-year application. This is available for Croydon schools at www.croydon.gov.uk/inyear-admissions. You can contact the team on 020 8726 6400 or school.admissions@croydon.gov.uk.

How do I find out which local authority to contact?

You can out which local authority area you live in and their contact details on the www.gov.uk website. If you type “my local authority” into the search bar on the home page it will take you to a link to find your local council. A number of local authority websites and contact numbers are listed at the end of this information sheet.

How do I find childcare?

You can contact the local authority Family Information Service if you have moved to a new area and need to find childcare. They will be able to provide information about childcare providers in the area.

Where can I find places to play for my pre-school child?

Staying in shared accommodation with pre-school children can be difficult with limited space for them to run around and play. Children’s Centres can provide a place for your child to play and make friends and for you to get advice on a range of issues. You can find details of local children’s centres by contacting the local authority Family Information Service or by looking on the local authority website. Your local library may also provide some children’s activities. Find your nearest library by contacting your local authority or looking on the local authority website. There may also be baby and toddler groups nearby. The Netmum’s website www.Netmums.com is a good place to find out about local baby and toddler groups.

What about holiday activities?

Keeping children entertained during the long holidays may be difficult if you are staying in shared accommodation. There may be local holiday activities which your children can take part in. Check with your local authority Family Information Service and local Children's Centre. You may also find information on the Netmum's website: www.Netmums.com

Where can I find further information on play and education in Croydon?

www.familyspacecroydon.co.uk

Where can I go for advice and guidance?

If you have concerns about your child's education, your best option is to discuss what support the school can offer with their teacher or head teacher.

The council employs a Family Support Worker who will provide advice and support to anyone in bed and breakfast hotel accommodation. She will write to you when you first move in with details of the service and how to contact them. The current support worker's contact details are:

Verna Francis (Family Support Worker, Housing Placements Team)

Email: verna.francis@croydon.gov.uk

Secure Email: verna.francis@croydon.gcsx.gov.uk


Tel: 020 8726 6100 Ext.65564 (Except Mondays)

Mobile: 07786 660119 (Except Mondays)

Local authority contact details


Croydon Council

 www.croydon.gov.uk

 020 8726 6100


London Borough Barking and Dagenham

 www.lbbd.gov.uk

 020 8215 3000


London Borough of Bexley

 www.bexley.gov.uk


 020 8303 7777


Royal Borough of Greenwich

 www.royalgreenwich.gov.uk


 020 8854 8888


Hammersmith and Fulham

 www.lbhf.gov.uk

 020 8748 3020


Lambeth Council

 www.lambeth.gov.uk

 020 7926 1000

Lewisham Council

 www.lewisham.gov.uk


 020 8314 6000


Newham Council

 www.newham.gov.uk


 020 8430 2000


Redbridge Council

 www.redbridge.gov.uk


 020 8554 5000

Southwark Council

 www.southwark.gov.uk

 020 7525 5000

London Borough of Sutton

 www.sutton.gov.uk

 020 8770 5000