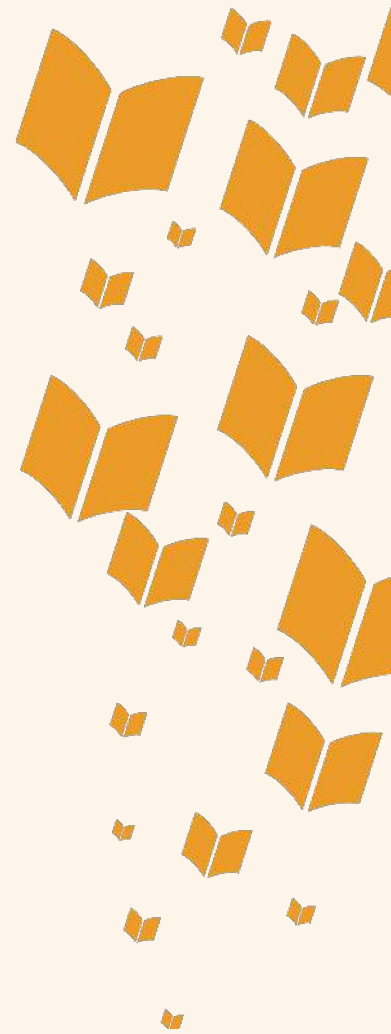


# North Tyneside Libraries and Family Hubs case study

North Tyneside Family Hubs:  
Introducing Families to Libraries



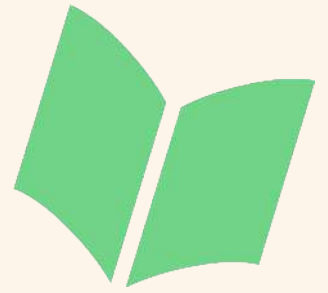
Written and published by  
Libraries Rising/ North Tyneside  
Libraries



North  
Tyneside  
Council

Libraries  
**RISING**

# Overview

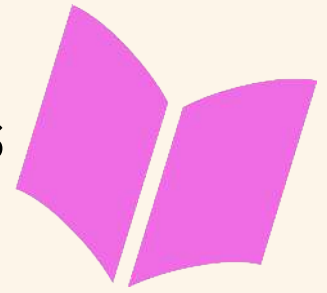


In North Tyneside, lots of families are already engaged with their local Family Hubs, and the library service is now creating opportunities to introduce them to the world of libraries.

The partnership is in its early stages, but it is already shaping up to offer children and parents a mix of stories, songs, crafts, and reading-for-wellbeing activities.

Family Hubs have also reached out to collaborate as part of the National Year of Reading, showing how libraries and hubs can work together to support literacy, creativity, and family time.

# How North Tyneside Libraries are supporting Family Hubs



- Library staff lead sessions that support children’s activities alongside dedicated parent reading and wellbeing time. The session include story, song, and craft activities for children at Family Hubs, creating fun and engaging early years activities, while parents spend uninterrupted time with a community reading worker exploring books and reading in a relaxed, informal setting. Sessions are flexible and responsive, evolving depending on the needs and wishes of the children and parents attending.
- Library staff deliver the same sessions at New Beginnings, supporting young parents aged 16–25 in short-term supported housing alongside the Family Hubs and Early Help team, with activities for children and dedicated reading and wellbeing time for parents.
- Continued collaboration with Family Hubs on National initiative including the National Year of Reading, ensuring families can participate in shared, literacy-focused events.
- Delivering joint community events including a baby and toddler festival, with Family Hub staff helping to promote the event and supporting activities for children aged 0–5. Festival activities include songs, dancing, arts and crafts, messy play, and giant games, all free and designed to engage families in creative, inclusive ways.

# The difference it makes



- Running sessions that support both children and parents creates valuable space for parents, particularly young parents children, to take part in informal reading for wellbeing conversations, while their children are engaged in fun, creative early years activities.
- This dedicated time allows parents to focus on themselves, explore reading as a way of relaxing or confidence-building, and connect with support in a way that fits around the realities of caring responsibilities.
- Delivering sessions in partnership with Family Hubs and supported housing services enables North Tyneside libraries to reach families who may not have previously visited a library or been aware of the support available to them.
- Meeting families in spaces they already trust helps introduce them to the wider world of libraries, helping to build understanding of the services, support, and opportunities available beyond borrowing books.
- Collaborating together strengthens relationships between local services helping to embed reading for pleasure and the value of the library service within wider family support, rather than it sitting separately as a standalone library offer.