

# DadMAIL

[blackpoolbetterstart.org.uk/dads](http://blackpoolbetterstart.org.uk/dads)

**Sunshine season is here**, and Blackpool's parks are calling. From Early Years spaces in Claremont, Layton Rec and Mereside to the woodlands and gardens spread across **21 parks**, there's loads of room for dads and kids to run, play and explore. Play is your superpower — so get out there and use it.

Find your nearest park, or try a new one each week



## Blackpool, Fylde & Wyre Parent Forum

Our parent forum is a collaboration of parents, the Maternity & Neonatal Voices Partnership, and local service providers.

Maternity Forums will be a chance for mums AND dads to talk about their pregnancy experiences, both in and out of the hospital. Next one is July, keep your eyes on our socials for details.

## Blackpool Family Hubs

### Family Hub Parent Carer Panels

Dads input is vital to help shape the services in your hubs and on the timetables.

Mondays at North Family Hub - 11am  
Thursdays at Central Family Hub - 11.30am  
Fridays at South Family Hub - 11am



Hi, I'm Joanne, the Family Hub Volunteer Services Officer.

I work with volunteers to create welcoming spaces where families can connect and feel supported.

We're keen to encourage more dads and male role models to volunteer. Whether helping at groups, mentoring, or being a friendly face, their involvement makes a real difference to families and children.

Get in touch: T: 07425 700441 E: [joanne.jenkinson@blackpool.gov.uk](mailto:joanne.jenkinson@blackpool.gov.uk)



Blackpool  
Family Hubs

child accident  
prevention trust

## Magnets can rip holes in your child's gut



### Buy

Only buy magnets from reputable retailers or brand names you know.



### Beware

If buying magnets from overseas sellers



### Avoid

Avoid small, loose magnets if you have small children.



### Teach

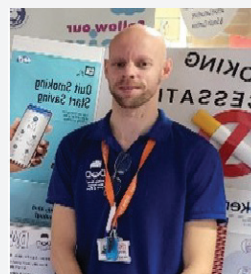
Teach older children to never put magnets in their mouths.



### Act

If you think your child may have swallowed magnets, go straight to A&E

## HAVE YOU HEARD OF...?



### Dad Matters

Every baby deserves strong, loving relationships from the very beginning - and that includes a secure bond with their dad. But too often, fathers are left out of perinatal care and early years support, despite their vital role in their baby's development. Dad Matters exists to change that. By supporting you to feel informed, involved, and emotionally connected, we help babies thrive - right from the start. Through early engagement, peer support, and partnership with professionals, we strengthen the relationships that matter most in a baby's life.

Your Dad Matters coordinator is Ross Greenhalgh. To contact Ross for support please call Home-Start Blackpool, Fylde and Wyre on 01253 728615

### Dads' Champions

*Dad's Champions are made up of people from different services committed to helping Blackpool Dads.*



#### Nichola and Sally

Nichola and Sally are Blackpool Better Start Community Connectors and can guide you through the registration process and support you to sign up and attend Baby Step sessions. You might also see them on the maternity ward and the antenatal reception area...look out for the orange t-shirts.



To meet more of the Dad's Champions visit [blackpoolbetterstart.org.uk/dads](https://blackpoolbetterstart.org.uk/dads)

### A Year of Storytime Fun 2026

Join us to celebrate the National Year of Reading 2026 at our storytime events, taking place in venues across Blackpool. Our monthly FREE interactive story sessions for 0-4s, include themed play activities, sensory play and more.

To find about times, dates and venues for each event visit [blackpoolbetterstart.org.uk/storytime-fun](https://blackpoolbetterstart.org.uk/storytime-fun)



**Baby Steps** is an opportunity to meet other parents-to-be, as well as professionals who can answer questions about your baby's development, pregnancy, caring for your baby and infant feeding. You'll start attending from around the 28th week of pregnancy either face-to-face or online. There are six weekly sessions before baby is born and three sessions once baby has arrived.



Meet Kerrie, Dads' Champion who works on the Baby Steps programme and with families for over 20 years. She is passionate about including dads during pregnancy and beyond. Contact Kerrie about antenatal classes at T: 07584 441 019 or email: [kerrie.roberts@nhs.net](mailto:kerrie.roberts@nhs.net)

### The Science of Becoming a Dad

BBC Sounds has a 25 minute listen for your lunch break (or parenting toilet break!) on how men change psychologically and physically in pregnancy, birth and parenthood. A lot are the same as mum's to prime for parenting, but allow dads to do what they do well.



Contact Colin, Community Development Manager on 077710 144989 to discuss ways to include dads in your work.

Our Community Connectors are here for you!  
Get in touch at [blackpoolbetterstart.org.uk](https://blackpoolbetterstart.org.uk)



Blackpool Better Start  
[www.blackpoolbetterstart.org.uk](https://www.blackpoolbetterstart.org.uk)