

# OUR NURSERIES

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LINKEDIN : HOWGILL FAMILY CENTRE



What's inside this issue:

BABY BASICS  
EARLY YEARS PROJECT  
NEW SERVICES

## HOWGILL FAMILY CENTRE

As we move into the Summer Term, we continue to look ahead to develop new opportunities and plans for our children and families at Howgill Family Centre.

I was delighted to host Bridget Phillipson and Josh MacAlister for a tour of our Birks Road Centre, which provided us with an opportunity to share all the amazing things our staff and children are doing daily to promote fun and education! We also continue to be part of the development of the Cumberland Family Hub and attended the official open day this week, we will be sharing more news in the coming weeks and months.

Please visit our website and social media accounts for more information on our services and groups.

Thank you for your continued support,

Faye  
CEO



# Discover our Ideal Workspace!

Looking for the perfect office space to accommodate your team of three? Look no further! Our brand-new, office room is tailored to suit your needs.

## ✨ Key Features:

- 💻 Spacious and fully furnished with a conference table and flip chart
- 🏢 Convenient location - 10 minutes to Westlakes Science Park and 15 minutes to Whitehaven
- 🕒 15 minutes to Whitehaven
- 📶 Complimentary WIFI
- 🔒 Free Facebook advert of your services/events
- 🚗 Free 1/4 page advert on newsletter
- ☀️ No long term contracts. Hire by the hour.



**Other rooms available to hire. For more information please contact our Operations Support Officer**  
**[Elizabeth.martindale@howgill-centre.co.uk](mailto:Elizabeth.martindale@howgill-centre.co.uk)**

# “Baby— basics” West Cumbria

We have prepared 24 referrals so far since January, which is up on last year's figures. In addition to this work, we have also been busy managing our Howgill Hardship Fund, which has enabled us to support vulnerable pregnant women and families with young children with items like energy vouchers, supermarket vouchers and beds. This support is targeted through our close working relationships with community midwives, health visitors and the Strengthening Families Team. In February the Howgill Hardship Fund was topped up with £1,000 which we were awarded from Cumberland County Council and asked to spend within 4 weeks, which we were able to do and report back with the positive impact that it had in the community.

## **Bedding & Maternity Clothes**

This month we have started offering bedding bundles, as we were receiving an increase in requests for clean bedding for mothers and young children from health professionals. We can now offer single, double and toddler bed size bundles which are sent out alongside our other available items. Similarly, we were also receiving an increase in requests from community midwives for maternity clothing for expectant mothers struggling with the cost of living. As we had been offered maternity clothing before by the public it was an obvious service to offer. We now have an excellent collect of maternity clothes in a variety of sizes, which we offer to the public via the new 'Maternity Clothes Library', but also use for preparing our bundles.

## **Future initiatives**

We're planning to launch an appeal, with the support of West Cumberland Hospital, to fundraise and prepare toiletry bundles for mothers on the maternity and SCBU wards who are struggling to afford these essential items. More details will be advertised on our Facebook soon. We're also looking at inviting some cooperate volunteers into help us sort donations in our storeroom later this year and are making further enquires about this."





# Time To Be Me

We have been planning and preparing for the activity sessions starting in April, which will include more arts & crafts, healthy eating, physical activity, and outdoor activities which can all have a positive impact on the mental health and wellbeing of children.

We all have enjoyed making our very own easter baskets with little fluffy chicks, and chocolate eggs!



We enjoyed decorating our own bee instruments and we enjoyed making them to how we like it, the bees even made music!



We would like to say a BIG thank you to all the schools that we visit and an another BIG thank you for all the support over this last term, it really means a lot!



# Creative Journaling

Join us with our new Creative Journaling course partnered with Cumberland Council, starting April 18th 2024! start decorating your own journal, filling it with your thoughts and experiences!



To book a place please  
contact our Operations Support Officer  
[Elizabeth.martindale@howgill-centre.co.uk](mailto:Elizabeth.martindale@howgill-centre.co.uk)

# Maternity Clothes Library

Calling all expecting moms! Every Monday from 9:30am to 10:30am, This MARCH we were thrilled to open the doors to our Maternity Clothes Library for the first time. Step in, explore our collection of cozy and stylish maternity wear, and find the perfect outfits to embrace this beautiful journey.



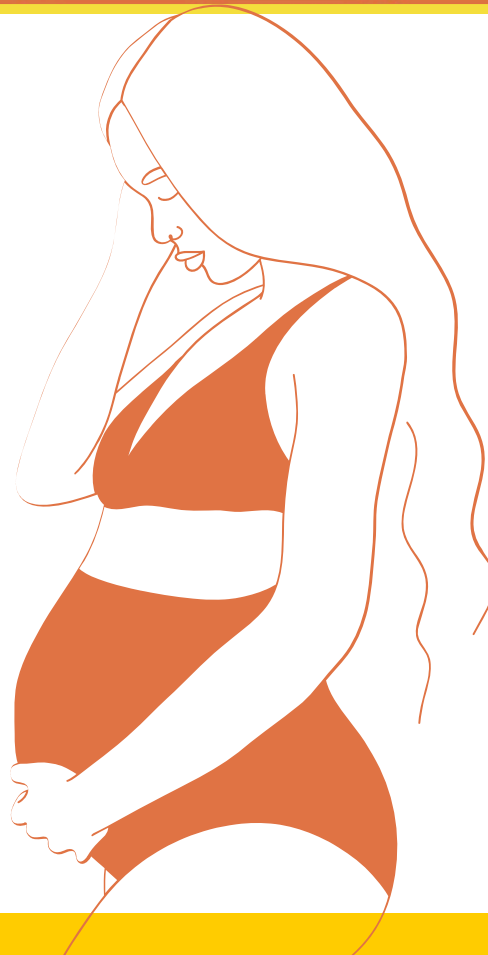
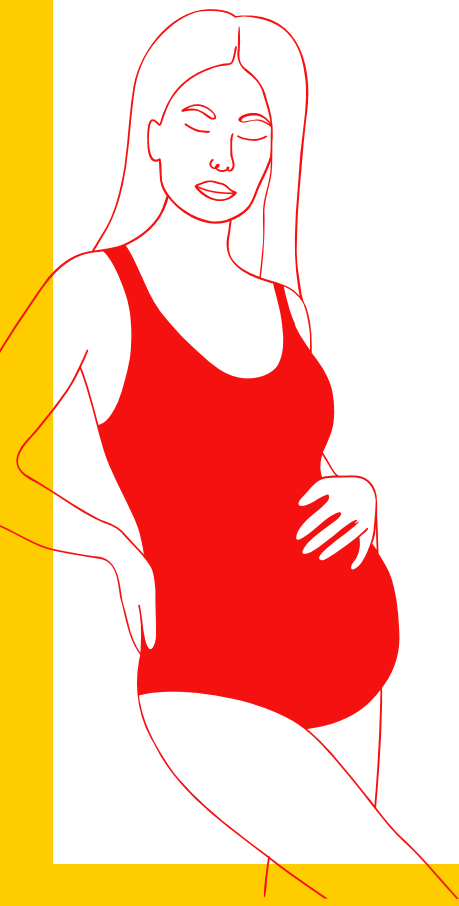
## Maternity Clothes Library **howgill** family centre

**Maternity made affordable and accessible. Borrow or keep essential maternity items for free from our diverse clothing library, supporting you every step of the way on your motherhood journey.**

**When:** Every Monday 9.30-10.30am Term Time Only  
No appointment necessary - just turn up.

**Location:** Craven Room, Howgill Family Centre, Birks Road, Cleator Moor, CA25 5HR

**Contact details:** [maternityclotheslibrary@howgill-centre.co.uk](mailto:maternityclotheslibrary@howgill-centre.co.uk)



# Good Enough Start

Here at Good Enough Start our youngest babies have had a go at mess free mark making. Zip lock bags kept the paint off hands and on the paper, the infants could push the cool smooth paint around under the crunchy plastic film. This activity evoked their senses and helped build hand eye co-ordination.



This made a lovely shape on the paper that they were able to take home. Carers really liked this activity, it is easy to recreate at home, held babies' interest and kept little outfits spotless.



To do this activity at home you will need:

- Clear zip lock bag
- Piece of paper
- Paint/yoghurt/coloured gel.
- Tape (stick filled bag to floor, mat or highchair table)

Never leave babies/children unattended.

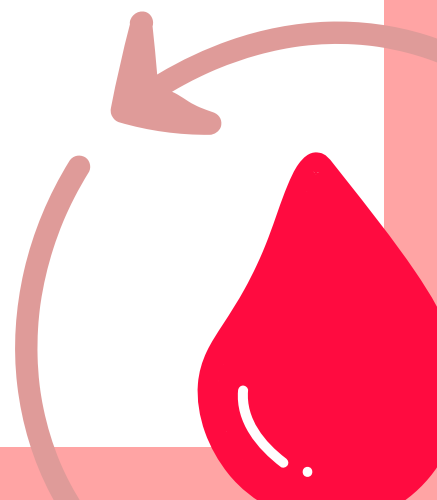
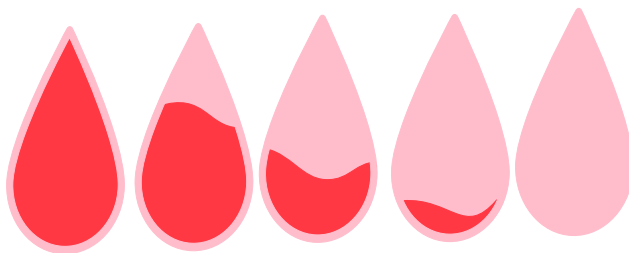


# Hey Girls

WE'RE THRILLED TO ANNOUNCE THAT HOWGILL HAS PARTNERED WITH WHITEHAVEN COMMUNITY TRUST TO BRING HEY GIRLS' KITS TO OUR AMAZING TEAM ACROSS ALL OUR SETTINGS! A MASSIVE THANK YOU TO WHITEHAVEN COMMUNITY TRUST FOR MAKING THIS POSSIBLE, AND TO OUR INCREDIBLE TEAM FOR ALL THAT YOU DO. WE'RE DELIGHTED TO OFFER THESE KITS FOR FREE TO OUR TEAM MEMBERS AND ALL OUR VISITORS. WE BELIEVE IN SUPPORTING EACH OTHER AND MAKING A POSITIVE IMPACT IN OUR COMMUNITY.



HERE'S TO EMPOWERING EVERYONE WITH ACCESS TO ESSENTIAL PRODUCTS AND PROMOTING A CULTURE OF CARE AND INCLUSIVITY. TOGETHER, WE'RE MAKING A DIFFERENCE!





# Easter Donations

WE HAVE BEEN VERY, VERY LUCKY WITH DONATIONS FOR OUR NURSERY RAFFLE. A GREAT BIG THANK YOU TO EVERYONE WHO DONATED PRIZES. A HUGE THANKS TO BRETT AND ALL AT CLEATOR MOOR AUTO & BODY REPAIRS, CITIZEN ADVICE COPELAND AND THE LITTLE BARBERS FOR THE FANTASTIC EGGS!





# Early Years Project

Stay & Play Group

**Howgill**  
family centre

## Stay and Play

**Location:**  
Howgill Family Centre, Studio Room, Birks Road, Cleator Moor, CA25 5HR

**Time:** 10am - 11am

**Day:** Every Tuesday

**For:** Parents/Carers/ Grandparents and their children

**Age:** 0-3 years old

*No need to book, just turn up*  
Starting on Tuesday 3rd October

Three circular inset photos showing children playing. The first shows a child playing a xylophone. The second shows a group of children sitting on the floor with an adult. The third shows children playing with toys.

Our Stay and Play sessions are designed for children aged 0-3 years old. This presents an opportunity for young children to socialise and for caregivers to connect with new acquaintances in a welcoming atmosphere.



# Early Years Project

Mess Monsters Group



A new and exciting group will be coming to our new studio room at Howgill Family Centre, Cleator Moor.

## MESS MONSTERS!

Starting Thursday 7th September, then every Thursday after.

10am till 11am. £2 for the hour.  
6 months to 3 years old.

Howgill Family Centre, Birks Road, Cleator Moor, CA25 5HR

Lots of different messy play for you and your child to enjoy together so come along and have some messy fun.

We have 10 spaces each week. Please contact us below to book a space:  
stephanie.carrick@howgill-centre.co.uk  
charlotte.howgill@howgill-centre.co.uk  
078 2794 4729  
078 2794 4739



Please note your child may get messy so spare clothes would be advised.

Our Mess Monsters group is tailored for children aged 6 months to 3 years old. It takes place every Thursday morning from 10am to 11am. Come and join us for an exploration through sensory activities, messy play, and a space to discover alongside your child. Participation in this session is priced at £2.00, and advance **booking is necessary.**



# Early Years Project

Our free drop in groups



The poster for 'TODDLER TALK' features a vibrant background with musical notes and colorful speech bubbles. At the top, the 'howgill family centre' logo is displayed. The main title 'TODDLER TALK' is in large, bold blue letters, followed by the subtitle 'Stories, rhymes and activities'. The schedule is listed as 'Every Wednesday 11:00am to 12:00pm' at the 'Howgill Family Centre, Craven Room, Birks Road, Cleator Moo, CA25 5HR', with a note that it is 'From 12 months old onwards'. A key message states: 'No need to book. Just pop along and join us. Refreshments provided for carers and children.' Two circular photographs show children and adults interacting in a group setting. At the bottom, logos for Sellafield Ltd, I CAN, CUMBRIA, FAMILY WELLBEING, and FCST are visible.

## Toddler Talk

For: Toddlers and their carers

Come along, have some fun with your child whilst supporting and boosting their communication and language development through I CAN program.



The poster for 'Babbling Babies Group' has a colorful background with rainbows and clouds. It features the 'howgill family centre' logo at the top left. The title 'Babbling Babies Group' is in large yellow letters, with the subtitle 'Join us for our exciting baby group.' below it. The schedule is 'Every Wednesday 09:30am to 10:30am' at the 'Howgill Family Centre, Craven Room, Birks Road, Cleator Moor, CA25 5HR', and it is 'From Birth to Active Wwalking'. A key message states: 'No need to book. Just pop along and join us. Refreshments provided for carers and children.' Two circular photographs show babies playing with toys. At the bottom, logos for Sellafield Ltd, FCST, FAMILY WELLBEING, CUMBRIA, and I CAN are visible.

## Babbling Babies

For: Babies (non -walkers) and their carers

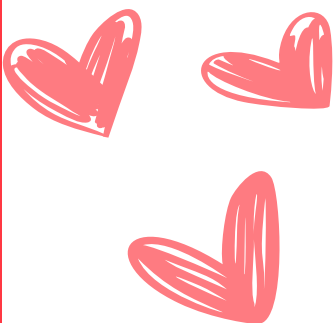
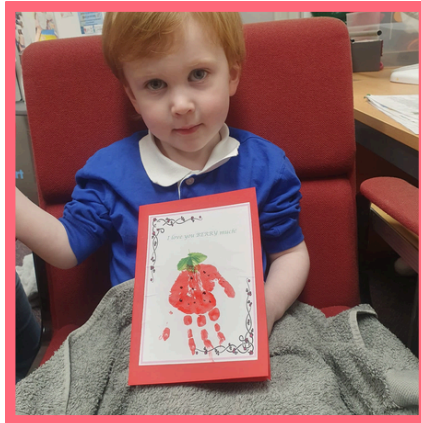
Come along, have some fun with your child whilst supporting and boosting their communication and language development through I CAN program.

# Valentine's Celebrations

Early Years Project

14  
FEB

In our babbling babies and toddler talk groups, we celebrated valentines day by painting our hands and feet to make cards to take home for our families!



howgill  
family centre  
XOXO





## Howgill Nursery @ Kells



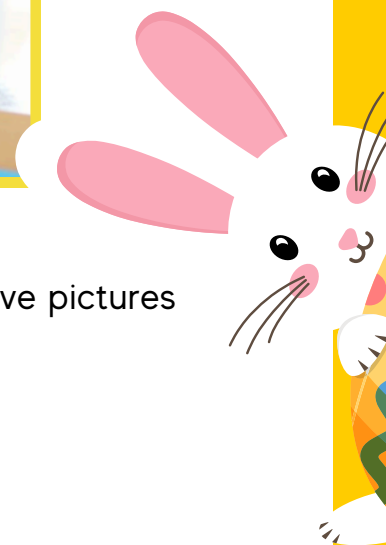
In March we celebrated world book day by theming each area of the nursery around a book. The children came in dressed as their favourite character and fetched along a copy of their favourite book to share. We also held The Tiger Who Came to Tea tea party.



For Red Nose Day the children came dressed in their pyjama's with activities based around the book Do Pirates Wear Pyjamas. They enjoyed recreating the book and shared who and what was on their PJ's. They also decorated biscuits with red noses on them to take home!



We have also celebrated the start of spring with lots of creative pictures including mothers day and Easter celebrations.



# Howgill Nursery @ Whitehaven



This half term, we have been learning lots of things about Easter and spring! We were all so excited to see the Easter bunny come to give us chocolate eggs!

We celebrated the end of term with an Easter party, an Easter bonnet parade and an egg hunt. The children loved finding where the Easter eggs were hidden! We finished the day off painting Easter photos!



We also enjoyed a Pyjama party for red nose day, we loved it! We were nice and cosy all day! It felt like we were all in our warm beds having a lazy day!



# Howgill Nursery @ Cleator Moor

## Preschool

Recently in preschool, we have been very proactive, we had so much fun while learning lots of new skills. We have been doing 'timer activities' consisting of manipulation and control and fine motor skill games to get us school-base ready. Us pre-schoolers have been lucky enough to be part of Phunky Foods each week which has been thoroughly enjoyed. The children are learning all about healthy eating, making healthy choices and beginning the process of safe food handling, learning skills of chopping, peeling and cutting. Now we are beginning our spring topic and look forward to going on nature adventures, planting our very own flowers, and learning all about spring animals and minibeasts.



## 2's Room

Over the past couple of weeks in the 2's room they have been learning about; dinosaurs, world book day and valentines day. The children have loved getting involved in lots of new and different activities, they loved planting their own beanstalks watering them and watching them grow. We have also going for walks round our community going to the shops to buy ingredients to make cakes. The boys and girls enjoyed going to the library on world book day to read and learn about some new stories.



## Baby Room

In baby room, our main focus has been different types of animals including zoo animals and insects. We have all enjoyed looking at the 'Dear Zoo' story and the soft animals. To celebrate world book day, we came in our pyjamas or favourite costumes and had a teddy bears picnic. With the animals we have been exploring all our senses using different textures i.e. Jelly, edible mud, edible sand, gloop and ice, it has been so much fun. We have had so much fun and so has the staff!





# What's On @ Howgill Family Centre

## Stay and Play

For: Babies - 3 year olds and their carers

Times: Every Tuesday 10:00am - 11:00am at Birks Road, Cleator Moor (The Studio)

This presents an opportunity for young children to socialise and for caregivers to connect with new acquaintances in a welcoming atmosphere.



## Babbling Babies

For: Babies (Non -walkers) and their carers

Times: Every Wednesday 09:30am - 10:30am at Birks Road, Cleator Moor (Craven Room)

Come along, have some fun with your child whilst supporting and boosting their communication and language development through I CAN program.



## Toddler Talk

For: Toddlers and their carers Times: Every Wednesday 11:00am - 12:00am at Birks Road, Cleator Moor (Craven Room)

Come along, have some fun with your child whilst supporting and boosting their communication and language development through I CAN program.



## Mess Monsters

For: 6 months - 3 year olds and their carers

Times: Every Thursday 10:00am - 11:00am at Birks Road, Cleator Moor (The Studio)

Come and join us for an exploration through sensory activities, messy play, and a space to discover alongside your child. Participation in this session is priced at £2.00, and advance booking is necessary.



Contact:

stephanie.carrick@howgill-centre.co.uk 078 2794 4729

charlotte.howgill@howgill-centre.co.uk 078 2794 4739



## Maternity Clothes Library

For: Mums to be and mums

Times: Every Monday starting after Feb half term (Term Time Only)

09:30am - 11:00am at Birks Road, Cleator Moor

Maternity made affordable and accessible: Don't let expenses hold you back. Borrow or keep essential maternity items for free from our diverse clothing library, supporting you every step of the way on your motherhood journey.

Contact: christine.davey@howgill-centre.co.uk



# ParentZone

## The new way to pay fees at our nurseries

### ParentZone

ParentZone app is where you can access snapshots of your child's 'wow' moments including pictures, videos and links to Early Years frameworks and guidance. You can upload your own observations from your time outside of nursery, which will give you a more complete view of your child's learning experiences. Staff can use the information to inform planning and next steps and strengthen bonds with the family.

ParentZone also comes with its own dedicated parent Hub; this is full of helpful resources, information and activity ideas, ParentHub helps further improve child development by encouraging a continuation of learning at home.

Enjoy the quickest way to make a payment to your childcare fees, with around the clock access. With in-app payments, you have the convenience of being able to pay fees, by card. You can also access finances through the ParentZone app so you know exactly what you owe. Your payments are then automatically reconciled against the bill.



Paying through ParentZone is quick, easy and you will see your payment on your account immediately. No need to wait for payments to be allocated to your invoices. Immediate allocation in real time!

We require payments in advance for bookings. Please contact your nursery if you have not received your activation link.

# Attention Business Owners and Event Organisers!



Maximize your reach and get noticed by our engaged readership! Advertise your business or event in our newsletter, reaching a diverse audience eager to discover new opportunities.

## ☀ Advert Options:

Full-page spread 📄

Half-page feature 📁

Quarter-page showcase 📎



For more information contact  
[elizabeth.martindale@howgill-centre.co.uk](mailto:elizabeth.martindale@howgill-centre.co.uk)