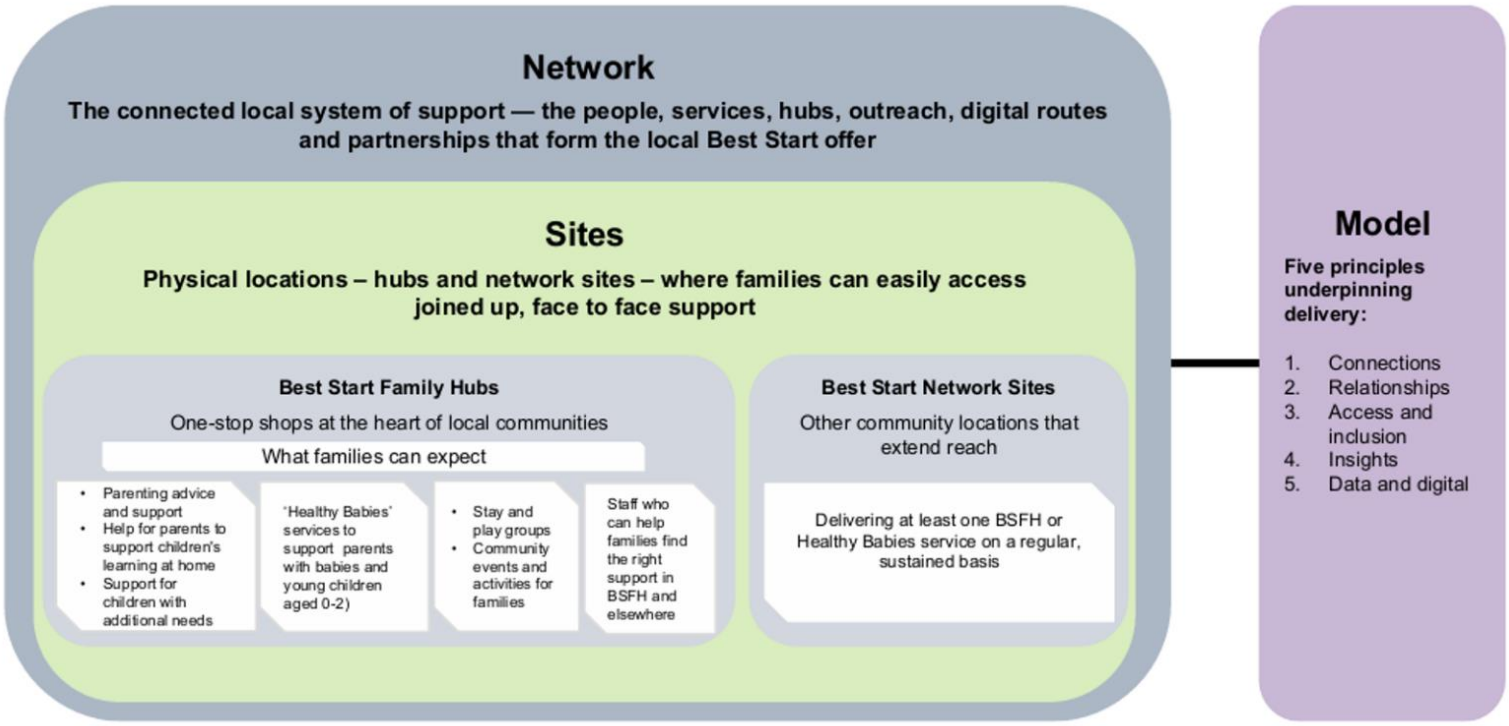
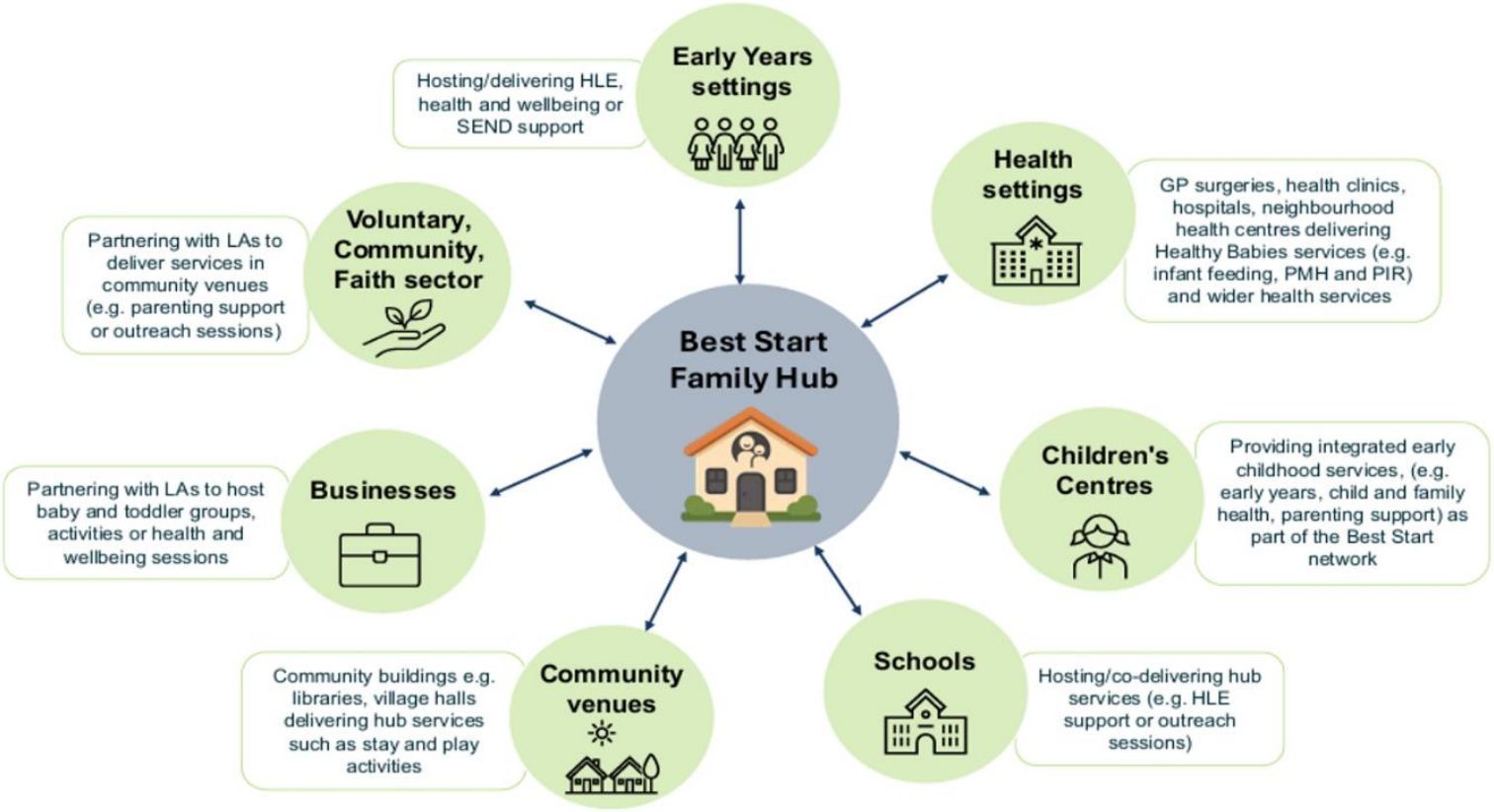
Appendix 1 – DfE Best Start Family Hub expectations

DfE (2026) Best Start Family Hubs and Healthy Babies Guidance for Local Authorities April 2026 to March 2029.







Wider services

Services for children aged 5+ and young people

- Youth services – universal and targeted
- Youth justice services
- School attendance
- Holiday Activities and Food

Health and Wellbeing

- Health visiting (0-5)
- Public health (0-19)
- Mental health
- Maternity, midwifery and neonatal
- Nutrition and healthy growth
- Oral health improvement
- Screen time
- Smoking cessation
- Substance misuse support
- Vaccinations

Financial and other assistance

- Birth registration
- Debt advice, money and welfare advice
- Food support
- Fuel poverty
- Housing
- Parental leave and pay
- Social welfare advice services

Wider family support services

- Armed forces families
- Children affected by parental imprisonment
- Reducing parental conflict
- Support for adoptive, kinship and foster families
- Support for separated and separating parents/carers
- Targeted family support- family help

Safeguarding

- Domestic abuse
- Tackling child sexual abuse and exploitation