

Sittingbourne

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Baptist

Church

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The Contact Centre Explained

What is the Contact Centre?

A place for children separated from a parent. Children of separated parents need to meet regularly with the absent parent. Some separated couples may be under a Court Order to ensure the children enjoy the company of the parent who does not normally have care for them.

A big problem for many couples is finding a suitable place to meet. This sometimes needs to be a place where the parents themselves do not choose to meet each other. The Contact Centre provides a neutral ground where parents can happily leave children with the separated partner, or stay with them too if they choose.

What's at the Centre?

Every Saturday from 10.00 am until 12 noon the Baptist Church offers a suite of four rooms equipped with toys and play areas for children to use while at the centre. Parents can play with their children together, or alternatively may leave them in the care of the other partner.

There are facilities for changing babies and male and female toilets.

How much does it cost?

A £10 admin fee is charged per family before a start date for contact to commence can be given. There is no charge for each session as all the facilities and costs of the Centre are provided freely by members of the Baptist Church. This is part of their Christian concern for our local community here in Sittingbourne. Refreshments are also provided free of charge although donations are welcome.

Who staffs the Centre?

Volunteers from the Baptist Church who have received basic training and have been DBS checked.

Supervision

If contact has to be "Supervised", the parents have to provide their own supervisor. Although there is a minimum of 3 helpers every Saturday, we must remain neutral therefore cannot undertake a supervisory role.

What we are not.

We are not a counseling centre nor are we part of the court system so we do not get involved with family disputes.

What we are

We are of course a Christian church and are always happy to answer any personal questions to do with the Christian faith which may be asked by persons attending the Contact Centre.