



Breastfeeding Friendly

The Breastfeeding Network Breastfeeding Friendly Scheme – Frequently Asked Questions

Q Can I sign up my business even if I don't have any space for a mum to sit and feed?

A Yes! You could be surprised at how easy it can be to offer a mum somewhere to feed, if you have a space for even 1 chair then a mum might be very relieved to be able to feed an upset baby without having to wait.

Q What if I run activities in lots of different venues but don't have my own premises, can I still sign up?

A Yes! If you run activities like baby music, yoga or massage and move around different venues you can still sign your organisation or business up to show that you are breastfeeding friendly and that you welcome breastfeeding parents.

Q What do I do if another customer asks me to tell a mum to stop breastfeeding her baby?

A The law in both Scotland, England and Wales means that a mum cannot be stopped from breastfeeding (or bottle feeding) her baby in any place that she is legally allowed to be. If someone asks you to stop a mum from breastfeeding you could let them know about the law and show them the Breastfeeding Friendly staff information sheet if you have it available. You could ask the person who raised the concern if they would feel more comfortable moving to sit somewhere else if that is appropriate (you must not ask the mum to move).

Q Do I need to have a private space for breastfeeding mums?

A No you don't, most mums are happy to feed anywhere, especially when they know they will be welcomed. Some mums might ask you if you have a private space, maybe if their baby is still very young and they feel uncertain about feeding or if they have a baby that is easily distracted so if you have a private space where a mum can sit feel free to offer it to a mum who asks. It is never appropriate to suggest a mum feeds her baby in the toilet or to insist a mum uses a private space if you have one.

Q Do I need to do any training about the scheme, for me or wider staff?

A The staff information sheet has some brief information about the law that protects breastfeeding, why breastfeeding is important and why the scheme is needed. Asking staff members to read the sheet and to be aware of what to do if a breastfeeding family come into your premises is sufficient. If you want more training or information the BfN have a short session, called First Milk Matters, which has lots of relevant information about the benefits and barriers to breastfeeding and we may be able to offer this to you and your staff if you are interested.

To speak to a Mum who knows about breastfeeding call National Breastfeeding Helpline 0300 100 0212

Calls to 0300 numbers cost no more than calls to UK numbers starting 01 and 02 and will be part of any inclusive minutes that apply to your provider and call package

*The Breastfeeding Network is a Company Limited by Guarantee Registered in Scotland Company No. 330639
Registered office Alexander Sloan, Chartered Accountants, 38 Cadogan Street, Glasgow, G2 7HF
The Breastfeeding Network is a Registered Scottish Charity No SC027007*

Q Are there any checks or ongoing requirements for the scheme?

A No, we presume if you continue to display the sticker and/or poster that you still support the scheme. If for any reason you are unable to continue to support the scheme please take down the resources. If you have paid to be on the online venue locator then a reminder will be sent annually for a payment to cover the costs of this. If you don't pay this annual fee we will presume you no longer wish to be included on the venue locator (you can also ask us to remove your details at any time). You can still remain a member of the scheme without paying to be included in the venue locator.

Q My business doesn't have any public premises, but we do have employees. Can we still sign up?

A Yes, if you want to highlight that you are a breastfeeding friendly business to your employees or people who might use your products or services, you can sign up. Have a look at our website for more information about being a breastfeeding friendly employer.

Q I am a not a BfN volunteer, can I use the scheme to sign up local children's centres and businesses?

A Yes, anyone can use the free online materials to ask local businesses and organisations in their area to sign up.

Q How will the scheme be promoted?

A The scheme will be promoted on our website and via social media. We have a specific 'Breastfeeding friendly' facebook page to highlight areas that have signed up and to let families and businesses know about how the scheme works

Q We have funding to set up the scheme this year but we might not have it next year, would we need to stop the scheme?

A All the materials are free to use (except for the stickers and being included in the venue locator) in the hope that the scheme is sustainable and can be maintained even in areas with little or no funding. If you don't use the stickers and the online venue locator the only costs are printing out the materials.

Q Can I use the scheme logo and materials in different formats?

A No, please only use the materials as provided. Please only use the scheme materials as provided on our website. If you would like to add your own logo to the poster and other resources please breastfeedingfriendly@breastfeedingnetwork.org.uk beforehand. Please ensure the Breastfeeding Network is acknowledged as the originator and owner of the scheme materials and logo whenever you use it.

Please note: The Breastfeeding Network's (BfN's) Breastfeeding Friendly scheme is intended to show that a business or organisation has an interest in supporting breastfeeding families to have a positive experience of breastfeeding out and about. Neither the scheme nor BfN takes any responsibility for guaranteeing a specific standard or customer experience in any premises or business that has signed up. The venues are not checked or certified in anyway by the Breastfeeding Network and we cannot take responsibility for the facilities or staff in any venue displaying the BfN Breastfeeding Friendly logo. Where we receive any feedback, positive or negative, specific to a venue or business we will endeavour to pass this on to the relevant party with a suggested course of action that may improve or help develop experience. However, the BfN cannot enforce changes. We reserve the right to remove participating businesses or premises from the Scheme where there is evidence to suggest that the scheme has been used inappropriately.

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