

HOUSE OF THE CHILD

Hasselt

19th November 2025

1. HASSELT – THE CITY OF PEOPLE AND TASTE

- An overview about the city

2. HOUSE OF THE CHILD HASSELT – 2018 – 2025

- A look at partnerships and co-operation

3. HOUSE OF THE CHILD HASSELT – SERVICES AND IMPACT

- The legislation and framework in practice



WELCOME TO THE CITY OF HASSELT!

Population (2024):

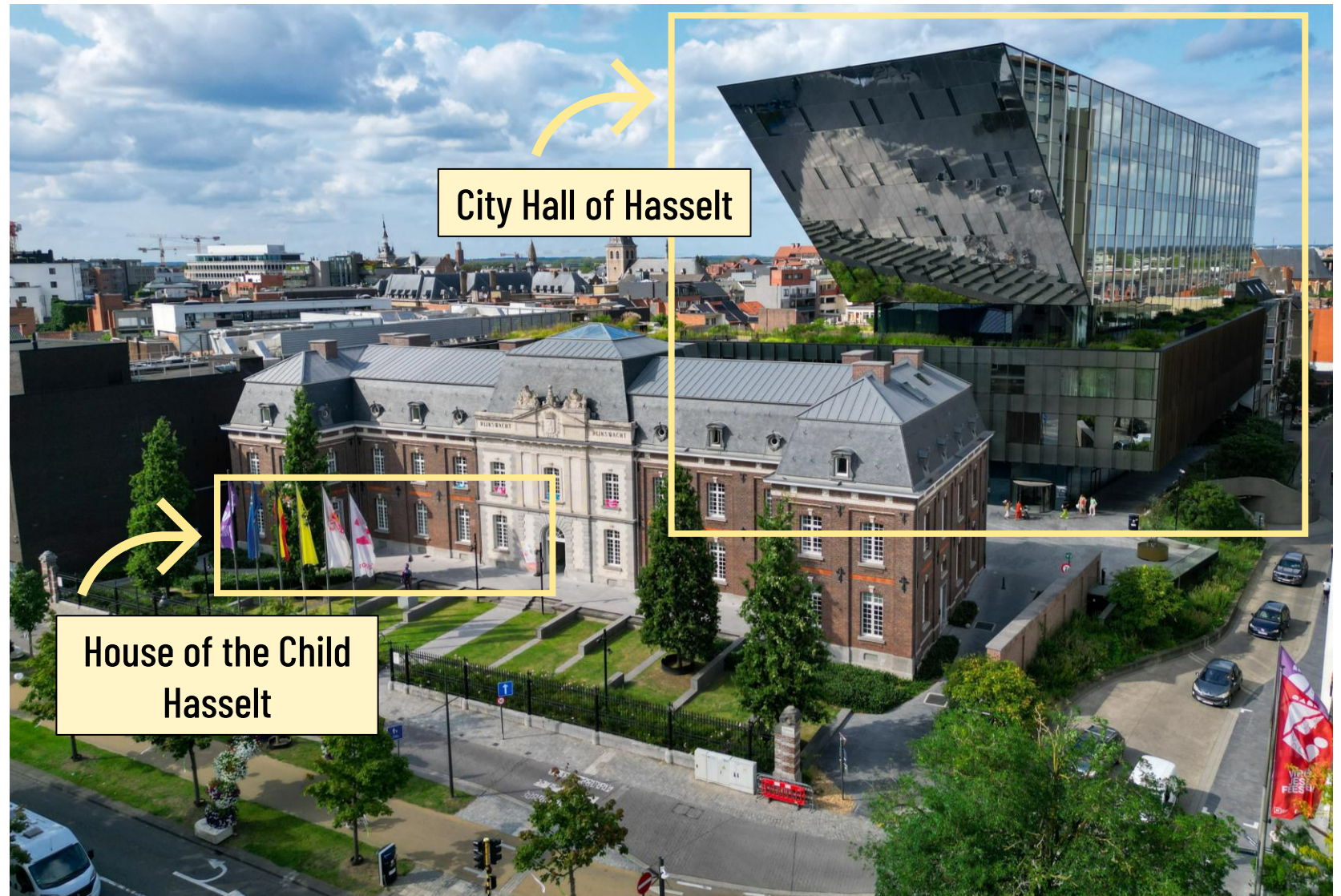
- 89.892 residents
- 16.716 children
- 743 births
- 25,2% non-Belgian background

Child- and daycare

- 25 initiatives 0 – 3 y
- 24 initiatives 3 – 12 y

Schools

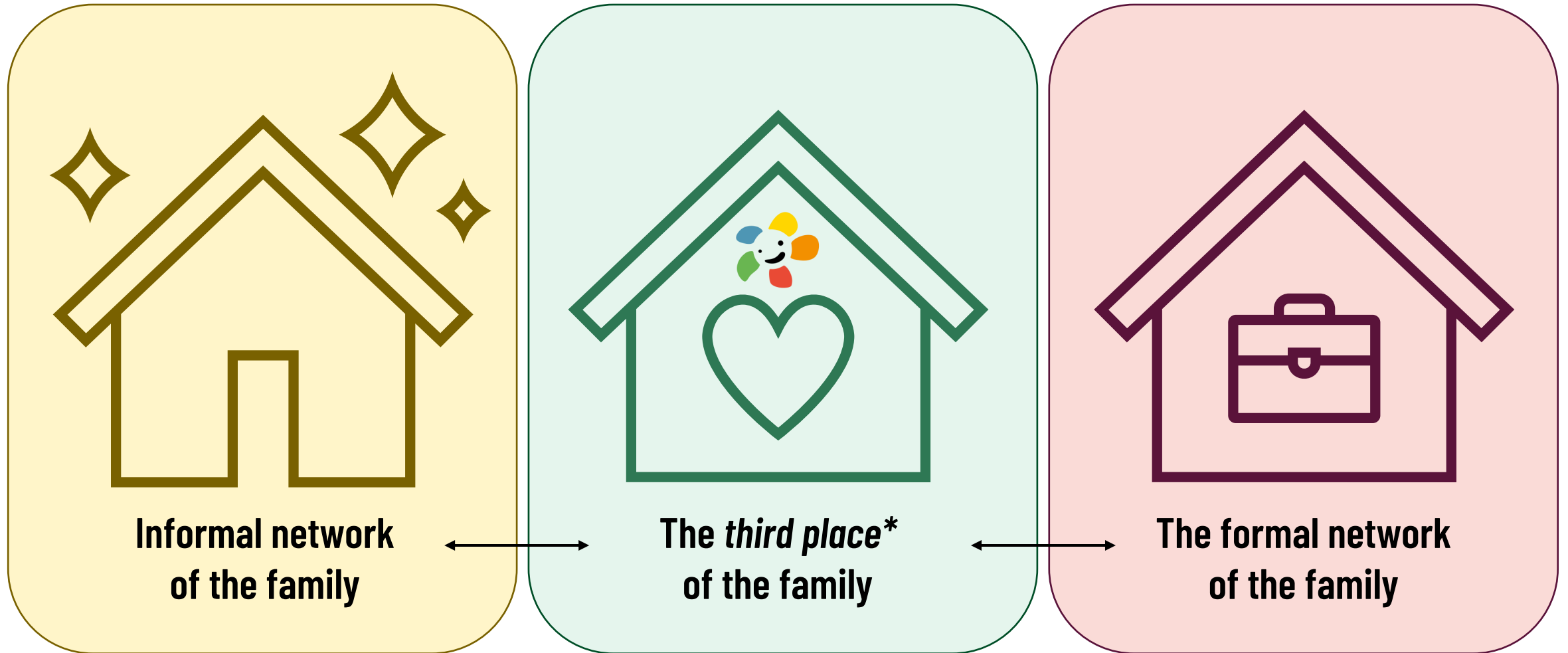
- 34 primary schools
- 16 secondary schools



Central location House of the Child Hasselt



House of the Child – positioning



hasselt.be/huisvanhetkind

*A public meeting place outside the home and the workplace that offers opportunities for informal social interaction. Oldenburg, R. (1989).



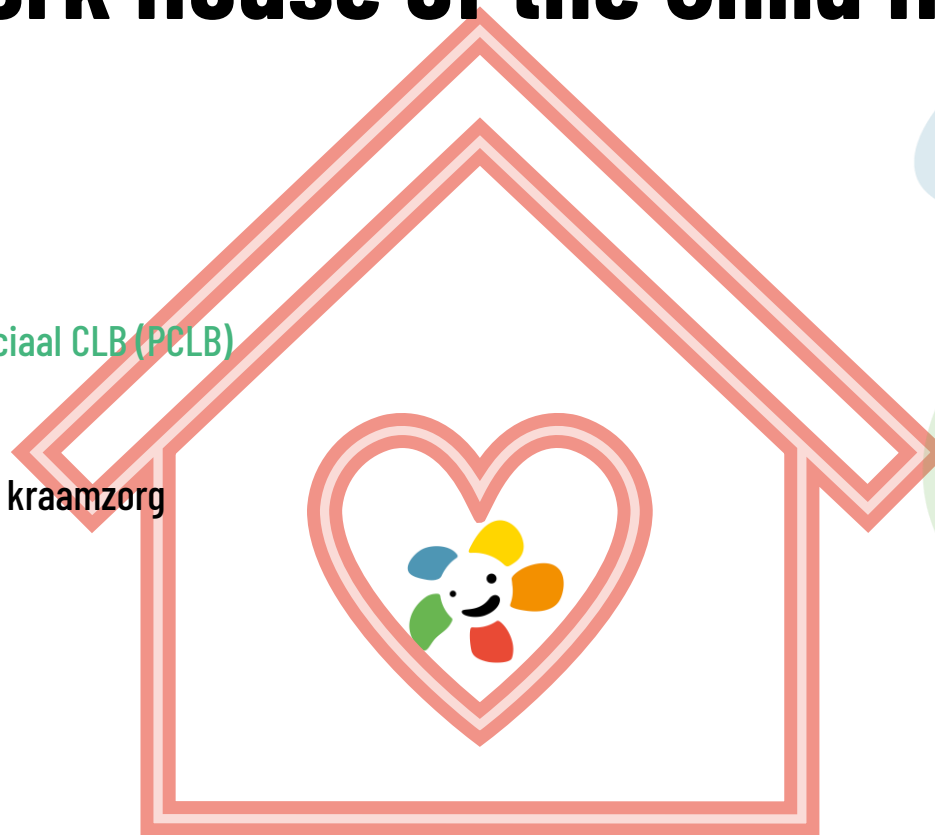
A HOME WITH PARTNERS

An Overview of the Partnership



Network House of the Child Hasselt

- ✓ Amiacasa
- ✓ Arktos
- ✓ Autisme Leeft
- ✓ Auxilia
- ✓ Awel
- ✓ CAW Limburg
- ✓ CLB Go! | Vrij CLB (VCLB) | Provinciaal CLB (PCLB)
- ✓ CM Limburg
- ✓ Gezinsbond
- ✓ De Kraamtuin: expertisecentrum kraamzorg
- ✓ Fara
- ✓ Familiehulp
- ✓ Faresa
- ✓ Ferm Thuiszorg
- ✓ Hasselt Zorgstad
- ✓ Hogeschool PXL
- ✓ Hogeschool UCLL
- ✓ Internationaal Comité
- ✓ i-mens
- ✓ IN-Z
- ✓ Jessa Ziekenhuis
- ✓ Kind en Gezin
- ✓ Kind en Taal

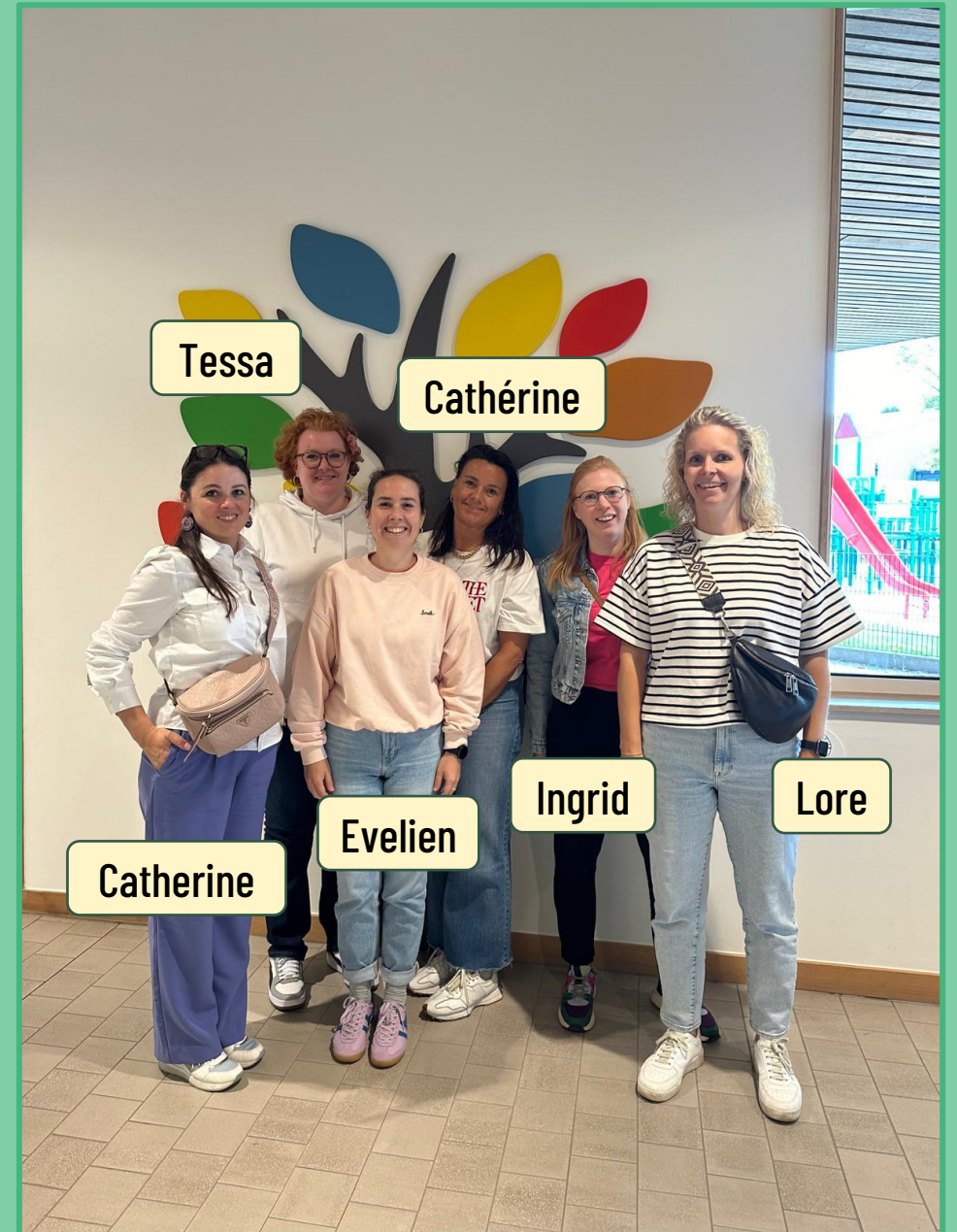


- ✓ Koala Hasselt
- ✓ Kraamdienst Wit – Gele Kruis Limburg
- ✓ Leonhuis
- ✓ Ligant
- ✓ Ligo Limburg Zuid
- ✓ Logo Limburg
- ✓ Lokaal Loket Kinderopvang
- ✓ Opvoedingswinkel Hasselt
- ✓ Pallion vzw
- ✓ Pleegzorg Limburg
- ✓ Rap op Stap (Horizont vzw)
- ✓ Rebelle vzw
- ✓ SAAMO
- ✓ Samenpunt
- ✓ Solentra
- ✓ Solidaris
- ✓ Speelgoedbank Innerwheel
- ✓ Stad Hasselt
- ✓ Ukkies vzw
- ✓ Vzw Borstvoeding
- ✓ Vzw De Hummeltjes
- ✓ Wiegwijs

Team Stad Hasselt

House of the Child Hasselt

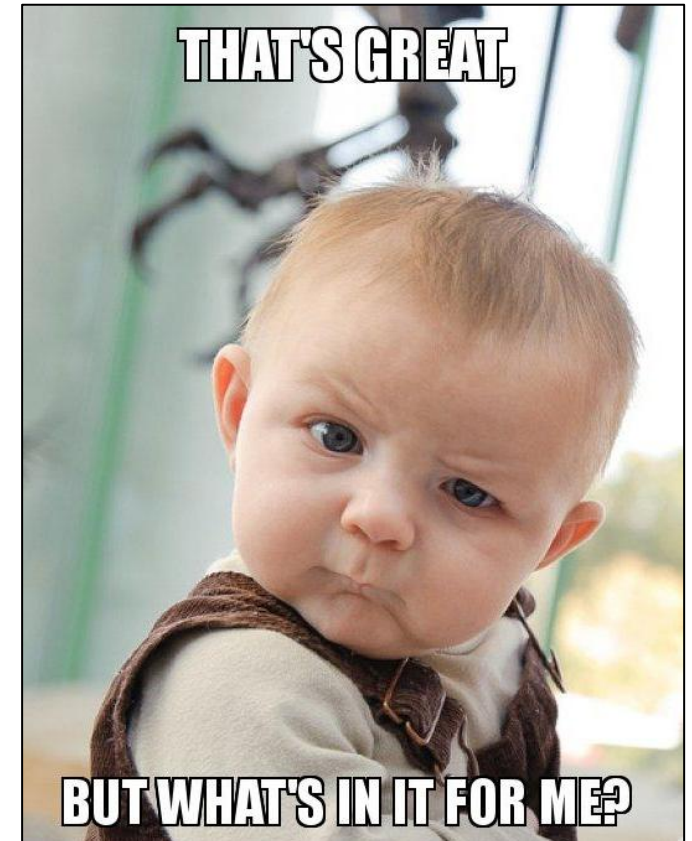
- Catherine Klimenko: Head of Department (1 VTE)
- Cathérine Appermont: Pedagogical Expert (1 VTE)
- Lore Swerts: Program Coordinator (0,8 VTE)
- Ingrid Donders: Coordinator of Social Cohesion and Material Support (0,8 VTE)
- Evelien Umans: Coordinator of Network and Reception (1 VTE)
- Tessa Vanpaeschen: Administrative Support Officer (1 VTE)
- And support from... 30 volunteers and ongoing internships





Challenges of Working Together

- We together are the House of the Child: a shared and collective vision that goes beyond our individual parent organizations.
- Create engagement and ownership: Organize network meetings and steering groups, ensure relevant information flow, include agenda items from all partners, share updates, invite local policymakers or aldermen, and keep everyone involved.
- Always consider: “What’s in it for me?”: The motivations and needs of each partner.
- A clear coordinator is essential: Someone who oversees the whole process, keeps it on track, and serves as a recognisable contact point for all partners.
- Acknowledge and make use of each partner’s expertise.
- Allow space for informal exchange: It helps strengthen relationships and trust, and: share a meal!
- Organise training for professionals: Focus on their needs and priorities and make full use of your facilitating role to support and empower them.





HOUSE OF THE CHILD

services and impact



House of the child

Activities

1. Preventive medical consultation offices
2. Organizing meeting places and stimulating social cohesion
3. Offering group work
4. Providing low-threshold individual support
5. Organizing a reception and information point





1. Preventive medical consultation office by 'Kind en Gezin'



- 3x/a week in/during (reception of) House of the Child Hasselt
- Thematic sessions for parents and professionals
 - *Potty training*
 - *Toddler puberty*
 - *Sleeping and nutrition*
- Individual parenting support for parents with children 0 – 3
- Family support (outreach) for families in vulnerable situations



1. Preventive medical consultation office by 'Kind en Gezin'



Reach in 2024

- ✓ **1945** appointments
- ✓ **648** unique children



Parents find their way to the House of the Child because of the preventive medical consultation!

2. Meeting places and social cohesion



- **Open and free meeting places/occasions**
 - *Play- and meetingroom in House of the Child Hasselt*
 - *Waiting room consultation office*
- **Organized meeting places for parents with children**
 - *'Peuternestjes' (0 - 3 jaar) (transl. 'toddler nests')*
 - *Speelnest Banneux (0 - 6 jaar) (transl. 'play nest')*
 - *Koffiepraat (0 - 12 jaar) (transl. 'coffee talk')*
- **Other activities with a 'meeting-component'**
 - *Fostercare appreciation event*
 - *Children's theater*
 - *Summertrip with picnic at the beginning of the summer holidays*



2. Meeting places and social cohesion



Reach in 2024

- ✓ Toddler nests
 - Took place **200** times
 - **1564** parents | **1366** children
- ✓ Play nest and coffee talk
 - Took place **82** times
 - **728** parents | **1118** children





3. Group work

- Based on needs – a varied annual program
- Infosessions, workshops and lectures
 - For parents, professionals, students and volunteers
- Thematic group series for parents or children
 - Pregnancy, baby, toddler
 - Autism, divorce, nonviolent resistance, emotion regulation, resilience





3. Group work

Reach in 2024

- ✓ **113** activities
 - **1466** parents
 - **1235** children
 - **422** professionals
 - **156** students



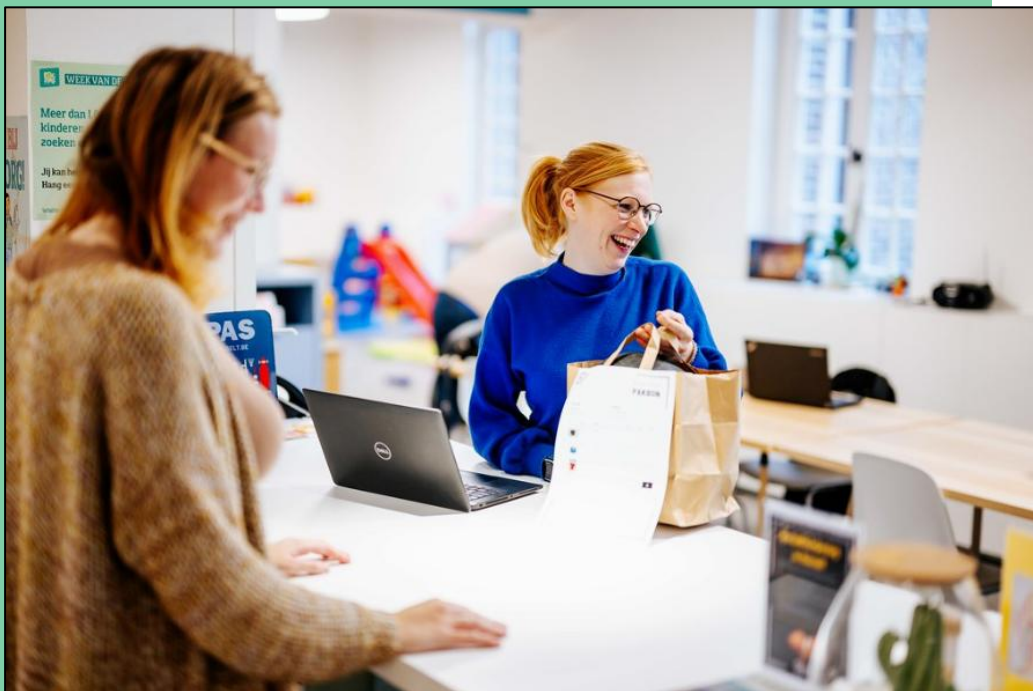
4. Individual support



- Thematic services in House of the Child Hasselt
 - Childcare
 - Child benefits ('Groeipakket')
 - Coach for children's rights
 - Leisure, sports and culture

} Walk-in, no appointment
- Parental and mental support
 - Parenting store: parental advice
 - Primary care psychologist (mild/moderate problems)
- *Material support*
 - Swap shop 'het Wisselke' (physical store)
 - Swap shop 'De Uitwissel' (webshop)
 - Toy library

4. Individual support



Reach in 2024

- Thematic rooms in House of the Child Hasselt
 - Childcare: **62** appointments
- Parentel and mental support
 - Individual parental support: **197** consultations
 - Primary care psychologist: **190** trajects
- *Material support*
 - Swap shop 'het Wisselke' (physical store)
 - **2909** visitors
 - **2952** families with a swap-card
 - Swap shop 'De Uitwissel' (webshop)
 - **376** orders and donations
 - **185** families with a swap-card
 - Toy library
 - **1618** visitors
 - **999** families with a membercard



"You can only enter for the first time once"

5. Reception and information point

- **Organization Reception**

- *In person – by phone, email or webform*
 - *Mon-Wed: 9 am – 5 pm*
 - *Thu-Fri: 9 am – 1 pm*
- *Any reason, question or concern is welcome*

- **Reception: Philosophy and approach**

- **3-phase approach:**
 - 1) Warm welcome
 - 2) Clarification (insight possibilities and difficulties)
 - 3) Solution

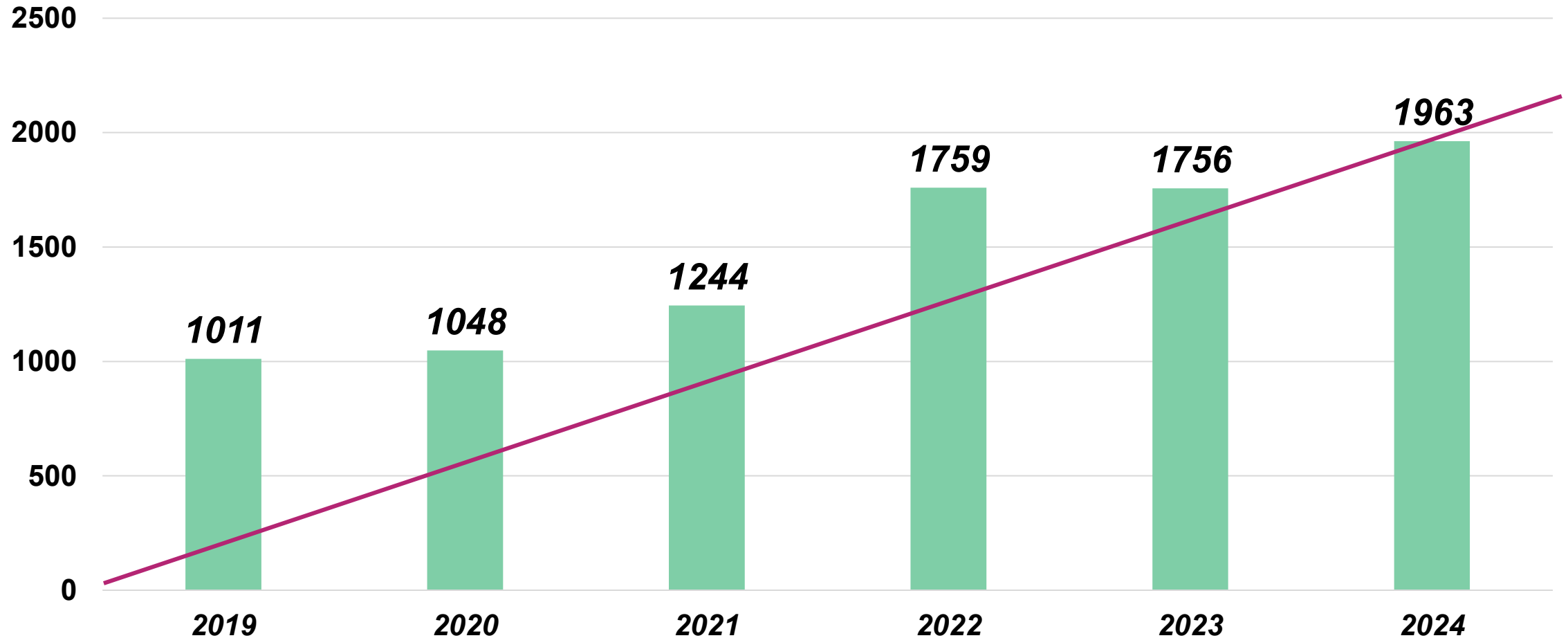
- **Low threshold and accessible**

- *Warm, open and reliable reception workers*
- *Play and socializing area*
- *Parenting library*
- *Nutrition and care area*

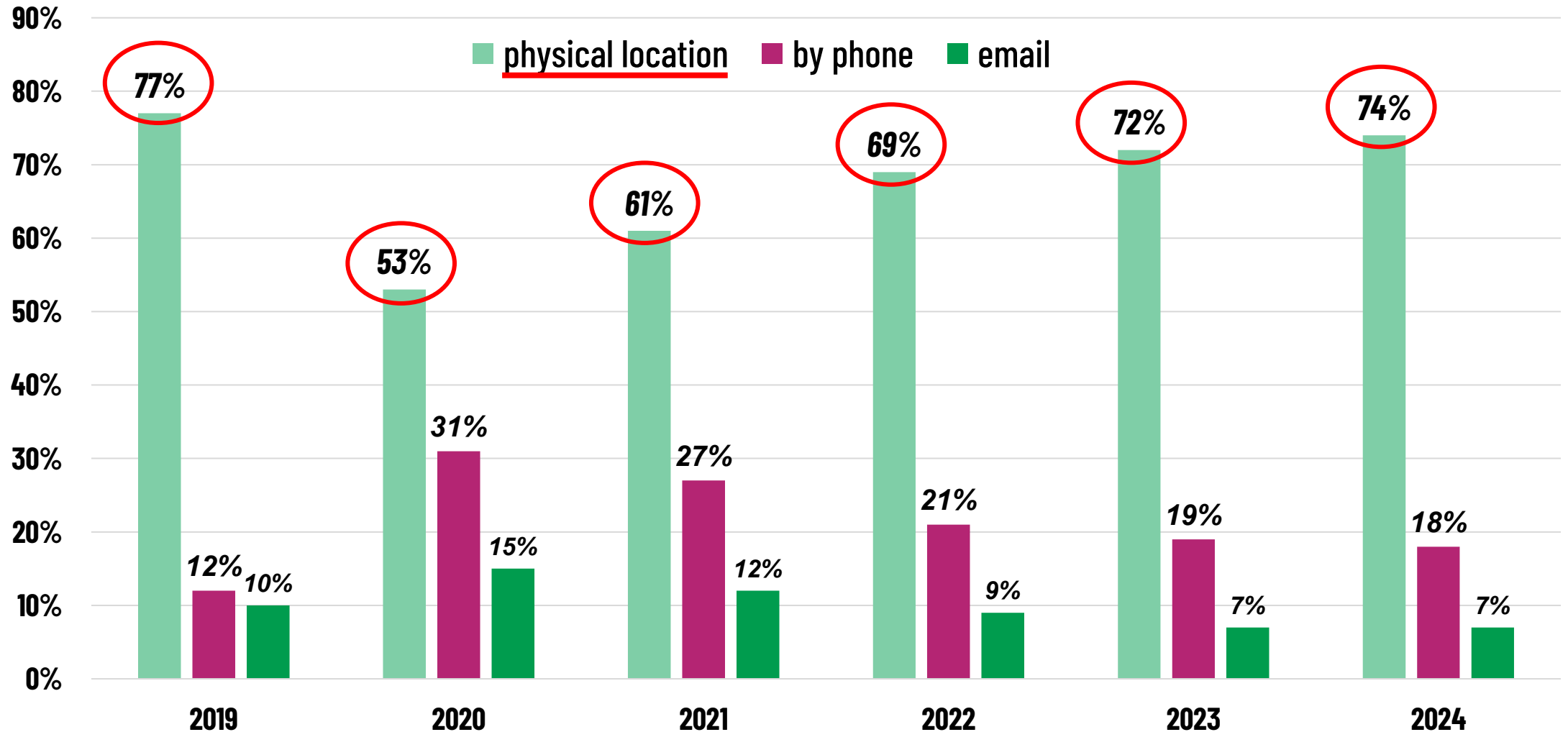


Spontaneous walk-in inquiries (5) - Reception

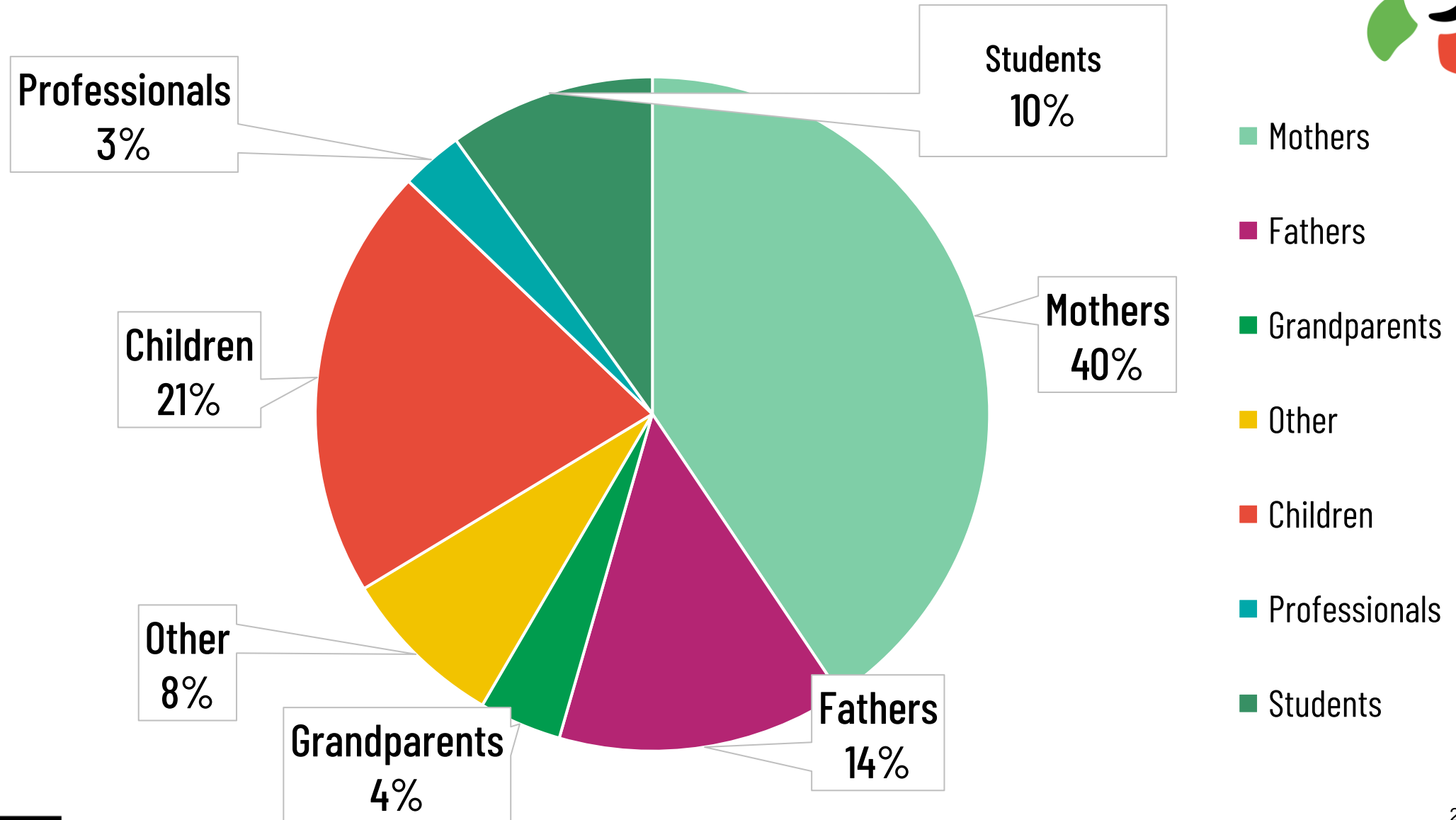
● Evolution 2019 - 2024



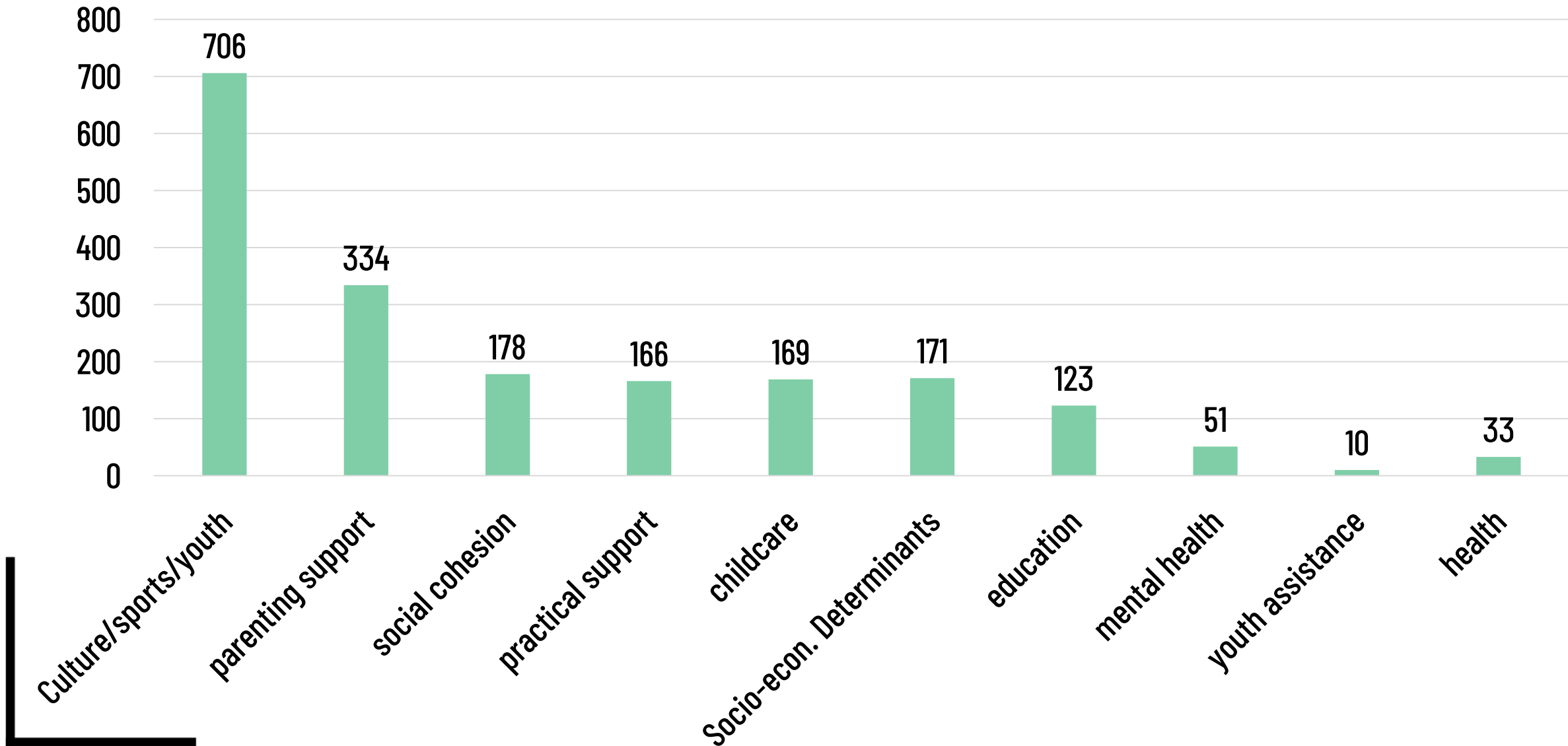
How do people find their way to the House of the Child Hasselt?



Who finds their way to the House of the Child Hasselt (2024)?



Life domains (2024) House of the Child Hasselt



Satellite points

Districts in Hasselt

- Toy Library
- Playnest Banneux
- Fostercase meetings
- Lectures and workshops
- Toddlernest Banneux
- Parental support

Banneux

- Koala house
- Toddlernest Ter Hilst
- Parental support
- Fostercase meetings

Ter Hilst

Runkst

- Toddlernest Runkst
- Swapshop 'het Wisselke'

**House of
the Child**
central location

Kortessem

- Reception point House of the Child in the library
- Toy Library

Visit one of our satellite points!

Kom langs in een antennepunt

Huis van het Kind is een netwerk van organisaties die zich inzetten voor de opvoeding en ontwikkeling van kinderen en jongeren. De centrale locatie van het Huis van het Kind vind je op het Limburgplein. Altijd welkom, ook in de andere antennepunten van het Huis van het Kind Hasselt.



**Huis van het Kind Hasselt
(Hoofdlocatie – centrum)**



**Kaza Koala (Antennepunt – Ter
Hilst)**



**De Hazelaar (Antennepunt –
Banneux)**



**Huis van het Kind Bibliotheek
Kortesseem (Antennepunt –
Kortesseem)**

<https://www.hasselt.be/nl/huis-van-het-kind-hasselt>



HASSELT
HEEFT
HET.



A HOME FOR MANY FAMILIES



In order to support as many parents as possible from the House of the Child Hasselt, we invest in **a wide range of activities**, offered **at various times** and in **diverse formats**, and covering **different themes, topics**, and **age groups**.

One size doesn't fit all (parents).



HOUSE OF THE CHILD Hasselt

19th November 2025

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