

# Hounslow Targeted Early Help Services

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## INFORMATION FOR PROFESSIONALS



**London Borough  
of Hounslow**

### Targeted Early Help and Intervention

The Targeted Early Help and Intervention team provides support to all Hounslow families with children under 18.

#### **Family Support Team**

The Family Support service offers guidance to families with multiple and complex needs including involvement in crime/anti-social behaviour, poor school attendance, experienced/witnessed domestic abuse, mental health difficulties & issues surrounding finance or unemployment. The service is available to families with children aged between 5 - 17 years (as well as those with younger children where there are children within this age range residing in the household).

Family Support Practitioners endeavour to motivate families to change unhelpful behaviours or attitudes by supporting them in identifying achievable goals. The aim is to improve the quality of relationships in the home and promote confident parenting skills, and to support families to engage with specialist services as required to address issues impacting on the family functioning.

This work leads to a more stable and settled home environment for children and young people and sustained change within the home environment. This service usually work with families for up to six months.

#### **The Specialist Intensive Support Programme (SISP)**

SISP is Hounslow Councils' in-house multi-disciplinary team. They provide a range of specialist services undertaking comprehensive, independent, assessments of children and families, most of whom are in public law proceedings or subject to a Child in Need or Child Protection Plan.

The service is available to families from pre-birth to seventeen years. Referrals come to the team via the allocated social worker or through a court direction. This support is only open to social workers and can be accessed only if a Social Worker refers their case as Brokerage to access this support.

The team consists of clinical manager, Advanced Clinical Practitioners, Systemic Family Psychotherapist, Parenting Practitioners and Clinical Psychologist. They have expertise in assessing parental capacity, specialist pre-birth assessments, edge of care families, attachment & bonding, child abuse and neglect, parental mental health, prevent LAC work and rehabilitation work.

## Targeted Early Help and Intervention

### Adolescent Support Team (AST)

The Adolescent Support Team works with young people within the ages of 10 to 18 years old and their families who require targeted intervention, often at a difficult time in their lives, to help them to achieve a better outcome.

Young people presenting or referred to the service may be at risk of involvement in anti-social and offending behaviour, have negative peer relationships, be involved with substance misuse, experiencing difficult transitions, be at risk of exploitation from others or exploiting others, or experiencing difficulties in home or school environment.

The aim of the service is to support young people to develop their resilience and self-esteem, enabling them to make positive choices. Adolescent Support Practitioners work alongside young people and their families to understand the context for the young person and seeks to make changes to overall family functioning to improve outcomes for the young person, siblings and the parents or caregivers.

AST undertakes Missing Person interviews (cases not open to social care) and the assessment will identify a plan to work with the young person. If any safeguarding concerns are identified, the case will be stepped up to social care for assessment.

AST also provide a rapid response, crisis intervention service with young people within the ages of 10 to 18 years who are at immediate risk of coming into Local Authority care, often as a result of a family breakdown. This is an intensive, short term, targeted intervention up to a maximum of 12 weeks to stabilise and improve family relationships.

This service usually work with families for up to six months.

**Please note that all FFIS services are consent based and families can choose to decline the support offered.**



### Early Help Groups for Parents and Young People

The Targeted Early Help and Intervention team provides support through parenting courses which are available to parents living in the Hounslow borough.

#### 123 Magic Behaviour Management Support

The 123 Magic Behaviour Management Programme is a five-week programme for parents only and is delivered online via Microsoft Teams. The course is for parents and carers of children ages 2 to 12 years diagnosed with ADHD or who display challenging behaviour. The programme aims to empower parents and carers with techniques to use in the home to better manage behaviour, whilst developing their confidence and understanding of their child's behaviour.

For referral forms contact [FFISgroupprograms@hounslow.gov.uk](mailto:FFISgroupprograms@hounslow.gov.uk)

#### Surviving Your Adolescents

The 'Surviving Your Adolescents' programme is designed for parents in the London Borough of Hounslow, who have adolescent children aged between 13 -18, exhibiting frequent challenging behaviour both in and out of the home.

The five-week programme created by clinical psychologist Thomas Phelan, is facilitated by our practitioners from the Family Support Team and Adolescent Support team. The programme is delivered online via Microsoft Teams. The programme is approach-based and revolves around reflecting on changes parents can make in themselves, as well as changes they would like to see in their teens.

For referral forms contact [FFISgroupprograms@hounslow.gov.uk](mailto:FFISgroupprograms@hounslow.gov.uk)



## Access to Intervention Panel (AIP) and Adolescent Management Group Panel (AMG)

AIP and AMG are multi-professional panels where managers or Advanced Practitioners from Children Centre, Youth Offending Service, SISP, Education and MASH are in attendance every Thursday.

The panels discuss referrals and decide whether the case will be allocated to Family Support, Adolescent Support, Children's Centre, Youth Justice Services, Specialist Intensive Support Team (SISP), Early Help Hub, Turnaround Project etc. They can also suggest referring to another service for appropriate support.

If you are a professional working in Hounslow Children's services making a referral for consideration at panel, please bear in mind that

- AIP takes place on Thursday morning between 10am – 12pm
- AMG takes place on Thursday afternoon between 1pm – 2pm

Please ensure you are able to present when making a referral

### You can access these without making a referral to AIP/AMG:

- Parenting programs
- Bereavement services
- Domestic Abuse Services i.e IDVA, DVIP, Let's Talk, Play Therapy
- One Stop Shop
- Hounslow Youth Counselling
- Debt Services: Step Change, My Independence
- Short Breaks
- Young Carers

You can also find details of other services and organisations that can support your Early Help work with families through:

**Hounslow Family Services Directory:** Your online guide to services and information on local organisations for parents, children, young people, providers and practitioners <https://fsd.hounslow.gov.uk/synergyweb/>

**Early Help Resource Bank for Practitioners:** One-stop access to information, practice resources and guidance, as well as news, events and national and local developments within early help. [https://www.hounslow.gov.uk/homepage/169/hounslow\\_early\\_help\\_offer\\_-\\_practitioner\\_resource\\_bank](https://www.hounslow.gov.uk/homepage/169/hounslow_early_help_offer_-_practitioner_resource_bank)

**One Hounslow:** An information and guidance hub connecting residents to local advice and support. <https://hounslowconnect.com/>

### How to refer a family for Early Help & Targeted Intervention support

#### **Professionals working in Hounslow Children's Services**

Practitioners from **the Family Support Team (FST), Adolescent Support Team (AST) and Children's Centres** requesting for a step up to Social Care can make their request by completing a FFIS referral to Children's Front Door on EHM.

EHCO will invite the referrer to present their case at AIP/AMG where case will be discussed and if appropriate, a service will be allocated.

All other professionals working in Hounslow Children's services requesting for support from the Targeted Early Help and Intervention team need to complete an online [Early Help and Children's Social Care Portal](#) referral detailing the support needed.

#### **Social Workers working in Hounslow Children's Services**

Social workers requesting for services i.e. family support, adolescent support, children's centre or YJS can make their request by completing a referral to ECAF form on LCS. Cases received by social workers can be either Step Down or Brokerage cases.

**Step Down:** Social workers who have completed an assessment and there are no further safeguarding concerns but have identified a need for further support for the family, children or young people i.e family support or AST support etc.

**Brokerage:** Social workers have completed an assessment or are still undertaking one but have identified need for additional support / Cases that are on CIN or CP plans and part of the plan is to get family, children or young people engaged in support services.

Social workers requesting SISIP support must have a consultation with SISIP prior to attending AIP.

If you need further information or would like to discuss the referral, please contact [FFISEarlyHelpCoordinator@hounslow.gov.uk](mailto:FFISEarlyHelpCoordinator@hounslow.gov.uk) for a consultation.

**It is not recommended that practitioners / social workers close the case prior to attending AIP / AMG as sometimes services requested are not available or are not deemed appropriate.**

## How to refer a family for Early Help & Targeted Intervention support

### **Professionals from other partner agencies**

Referrals to Targeted Early Help and Intervention should come through the Children Services Front Door MASH Team. If you are a professional working with a family residing in the London Borough of Hounslow, you will need to complete a referral via the online [Early Help and Children's Social Care Portal](#). Please ensure all details of the required support needed for the family are included within the referral.

Please complete all sections of the online form, including any supporting documents, as this allows screening professionals to consider other issues or extenuating circumstances for which the family may need support. Do include whether family or young person has given their consent for the referral. For AST referrals you must gain consent from the young person.

The referrals are screened by the Team Manager, Advanced Social Work Practitioners and the Early Help Coordinator. Some referrals are signposted to services within the community, parenting programmes or other support services.

Cases that need more intensive support are put on the meeting agenda to be discussed at the Access to Intervention Panel (AIP) and the Adolescent Monitoring Group (AMG) panel.

For updates on referrals requesting for support from the Targeted Early Help and Intervention team, please contact the Early Help Coordinator by emailing [FFISEarlyHelpCoordinator@hounslow.gov.uk](mailto:FFISEarlyHelpCoordinator@hounslow.gov.uk).

**Please note that all Targeted Early Help and Intervention services are consent based and families can choose to decline the support offered.**

