

Process for referring to Southwark Family Early Help

**** Please note that Family Early Help (FEH) can only work with families who consent to receiving a service. If referrers need additional support with deciding suitability or making a referral, please contact the FEH duty manager on 020 7525 3893**

Tier 1/universal health practitioner identifies child(ren) with additional needs, who may be vulnerable and showing early signs of abuse and/or neglect. *

* Please note that Family Early Help provide services at Tier 2 on the continuum of need. If you believe that a child is in more complex or acute need, or at risk of significant harm, please refer to the multi-agency safeguarding hub (MASH) sending the safeguarding referral form to **MASH@southwark.gov.uk**

Practitioner seeks consent from carer(s) ** and completes Family Early Help (FEH) referral form and sends to the FEH inbox **earlyhelp@southwark.gov.uk**

Please refer to the **Southwark Multi Agency Threshold of Need** document to assist in identifying whether an early help or safeguarding referral is more appropriate

If immediate action is required, FEH manager contacts the family or convenes Team Around the Family (TAF)

Referral is allocated to an FEH manager to screen

If referral is unclear or more information is needed to make a decision, FEH manager makes further enquiries with referrer or other agencies

If threshold criteria not met, FEH will liaise with referrer regarding alternative services and recommendations for supporting the family

Referral/Allocations meeting to decide appropriate Early Help service offer

If screening identifies that safeguarding concerns are too great for Tier 2 intervention, referral escalated to MASH

If criteria for a FEH service is met, depending on our assessment of need and complexity for a given family, one or more of the interventions below will be offered ***

Parents(s) allocated to the Strengthening Families, Strengthening Communities Parenting Programme

Family allocated an FEH practitioner for 'whole family' support

Family allocated to Early Help CAMHS for assessment and clinical intervention

Case allocated to Senior Education Welfare Officer for statutory education intervention

*** Please note that there may be a short waiting list for allocation