

Family Intervention Workers

What We Believe

Children and Family Services believe that families are best placed to recognise what is working well and where they want things to change while drawing on their strengths and making meaningful change. Our team works alongside families to support self-identified changes that will help them stay together safely.

Our Family Intervention Workers

Our staff have many years of experience supporting children and families. Staff are trained in Motivational Interviewing, Strength-Based Approaches, Attachment Work, and Circle of Security Parenting (COSP). Family Intervention Workers (FIW) are based within our core teams of Long-Term Planning and Reunification and Child Protection and Court, and work alongside Social Workers, Community Support Workers and managed by a Team Manager(s).

Families We Work With

We support families and children who are involved with Social Services and who recognise the need for change.

Families agree to work with us and must be willing to engage in intensive support. The family and referring worker will agree on goals and timescales for change.

The Process

The Social Worker explains the role of the FIW and, if the family agrees, arranges a joint visit with a FIW. During this visit, concerns and goals are discussed from both the

family's and the Social Worker's perspectives, and the case then becomes co-worked with between the allocated Social Worker and the FIW.

Throughout the intervention, the case remains open to the Social Worker. Family Intervention Workers support families intensively for up to 12 weeks, sometimes longer if required.

During the intensive stage, FIWs usually visit twice a week, and may visit more often if additional support is needed. These regular sessions provide opportunities to explore concerns in depth, identify family values and strengths, set meaningful goals, and practise new skills. The frequency of the visits helps build a strong working relationship and ensures that change can be supported consistently and effectively. A Safety Plan may also be needed to ensure that everyone understands how risks will be managed.

Families receive both practical and emotional support throughout the process, and progress is reviewed regularly. Case closure is considered alongside the Social Worker at each review, with most cases closing within 12 weeks.

Booster Sessions

We offer booster sessions throughout our involvement. Lapses are a natural part of change, and boosters allow families to reflect, strengthen strategies, and build on what is working well.

Confidentiality

Information shared with the Family Intervention Workers is treated with respect

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and only shared with professionals directly involved.

Confidentiality has limits, and we must share information if a child or vulnerable person is at risk of harm or if required by law.

Where possible, families will be informed before information is shared.

Our Contact Details

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Glossary of Terms

FST – Family Support Team: Professionals who support families to make change.

FIW – Family Intervention Worker: Works directly with the family.

Safety Plan – A plan created with the family to keep children safe.

COSP – Circle of Security Parenting.

Care and Support Plan – Support plan created by Social Services.

Child Protection Plan – Plan used when safeguarding concerns are higher.