

HELP OFFERED BY CHILDREN SERVICES



Children Services can offer different types of support to families so they can provide a better care for children. Their help is available from the early stages of problems developing within families to child protection procedures.

Family support worker – offers emotional and practical support at the family home. It focuses on parenting advice on meeting the basic needs of the child, such as feeding, hygiene, playtime as well as support around managing a child’s behaviour or using discipline. The support for creating a family budget and spending is also available.

Parenting skills programmes – support in developing parenting skills may be offered through parents group meetings or parenting courses run for several weeks by trained facilitators.

Children centres – offer a variety of activities and services for families with children up to the age of five. They can include antenatal classes, feeding classes, playtime for children etc. Parents can receive individual parenting advice.

Psychological support – it’s offered to parents and children.

Housing support for victims and perpetrators of domestic abuse – children services can offer help in securing accommodation for victims and children as well as for perpetrators who agree to leave the family home.

Financial support – children services can offer practical support, including financial help, for example in getting food, equipment for the house or other basic things for the children.

Safe contact arrangements – advice on safe contact with a parent who was abusive or support in organising contact at the contact centre, which can be supervised.

Specialist courses for victims and perpetrators of domestic abuse – children services can refer to courses, which aim to increase knowledge about the nature of abuse and its impact on the whole family. Courses are run separately for victims and perpetrators and have different content.

Support with addictions – a referral to drug and alcohol treatment can also be offered.