

REFERRAL GUIDANCE FOR DAD MATTERS SUPPORT

If you know a dad who you think may be interested in finding out more about our Dad Matters (Active Fatherhood) support, they can ring us themselves for a chat or to arrange an appointment for us to see them.

If it would be more appropriate for you to help the family get in touch with us, please fill in a referral form with dad's consent, (*and preferably with the family*) and return it to us. If you are unsure and it would help to talk to us about a potential referral, please call and speak to our Dad Matters team on the numbers below:

Marina Taylor	Senior Co-ordinator	07710 030047
Darren O'Donovan	Dad Matters Co-ordinator	07511 112166

Please bear in mind that our resources are limited, and we are not a crisis agency. ***Please don't think about solving a family's immediate crisis by referring them to this service.***

Our Dad Matters project is a short-term intervention focussed on three key areas only:

- **dad's mental health**
- **bonding & attachment**
- **access & signposting to services**

If the family you would like to refer do not fit into the criteria below, or require a longer period of support, or has other support needs, please consider referring them into our other support services such as home visiting or group support.

Our support work is predominantly with dads directly and therefore there is limited opportunity for seeing children and being able to assess risk to safeguard children

We are happy to talk to individuals or groups of professionals, potential Home-Start Families, or potential volunteers, in person or by phone.

Referrals that are NOT appropriate

- ✗ Dads that do not live in Kirklees
- ✗ Dads with children only over the age of 2
- ✗ Ongoing domestic abuse
- ✗ Ongoing substance misuse
- ✗ Dads who have no contact with the children

Referrals that are appropriate

- ✓ Dads that live in Kirklees
- ✓ Dads with at least one child under the age of 2, or who are expecting a baby in the family
- ✓ Dads who would like support with their own mental health, with accessing services or signposting to appropriate mental health services
- ✓ Dads who would like to access community provision with their child
- ✓ Dads who would like information, advice and guidance on becoming a dad and parenting
- ✓ Dads who have experienced birth trauma or bereavement