

## Our Values

Honest and transparent

Non-judgemental approach

Responsive and flexible to meet the needs of the family

Listen and values parents' views and perspectives

Is fair and consistent

Believe that everyone is capable of positive change

Understand that past experiences which may include trauma can affect current behaviour and choices

Recognise that some parents who have experienced trauma need additional and different support to make positive change



## STARS Team Tameside

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## Welcome to



The Strengthening Families model in Tameside is an intensive early help offer for parents — mothers and/or fathers who are pregnant and have had children separated from them previously. Our aim is to provide a holistic package of support to help break and repair this cycle to promote positive outcomes.

Our aim is to improve the quality of life and relationships for the child and family, by providing a co-ordinated intensive early help support pathway with pregnant women (and their unborn babies) and fathers who have had at least one child separated from them.

## Our Focus

Our focus is helping parents/carers explore how their previous experiences are affecting their current choices and future aspirations and to support them to:

- Make changes necessary for their own health and wellbeing
- Feel confident that they are able to care for their unborn child
- Complete an Early Help Assessment to look at families' strengths, capture parents' views and identify any areas of support (see information attached)
- Families will be assigned a pathway which best meets their individual needs
- Work alongside Social Care teams to support the implementation of Child Protection Plans when needed
- Support parents following any child separations
- Support families to plan for a more positive future



## The Early Help Assessment

### How does it help me and what is it?

We all need help sometimes and that's OK.

An Early Help Assessment (EHA) is a way of highlighting the strengths of your family and the areas you feel could be better including any worries you have, such as things at home, your family, health or finances.

With your consent, your STARS Family Intervention Worker will complete this with you and together decide what support you need and agree an action plan for what needs to happen next, including referring to other agencies who can support you.

### Review Meetings

Review meetings will take place every 4 weeks with you, your family and any professionals involved to make sure the plan is working and look at what else needs doing to make things better.

### Voice of the Child

It is vital that as well as your perspective, your child/baby is involved. We capture 'The Voice of the Child' by understanding their views and wishes and where possible acting upon them.

### Consent

The EHA, reviews, or meeting documents will not take place or be shared without your consent. A STARS worker will be the lead professional and will ensure, by sharing information between agencies, you get a complete service.

### Ending of an Early Help Assessment

When things are better and all actions have been met, the EHA can close.

## Key Principles

Key to the delivery of our objectives, are several core principles, which include:

- **Future Focus**  
We believe every parent is capable of positive and lasting change.
- **Strength based**  
We believe every family has strengths and assets they can build on.
- **Relational**  
Honesty is at the heart of relationships, which are based on mutual respect and trust.
- **Holistic**  
Although our focus is the child/children, we work with the whole family to promote good quality family relationships.
- **Evidence informed**  
We use proven approaches to support positive and lasting change, manage risk and build capacity.
- **Personalised**  
We draw on a wide range of skills and services, such as Midwifery, Health Visiting, Early Attachment and drug/alcohol services to offer families an individual package of support.

**This means in Tameside we will work with the family (not to/for) to identify goals and achieve positive outcomes.**