



One Minute Guide

Intensive Family Support (Supporting Families Team)

August 2024



What is the Coventry Intensive Family Support Model?

The Coventry Intensive Family Support Model is built upon the principles set out in the Supporting Families Programme. When supporting families, we will take a whole family approach that recognises the uniqueness and diversity of each family, work with families to create a family plan and ensure families have a lead practitioner who co-ordinates the support to meet the needs of the family.

Intensive family support is delivered through a 16-week package of support led by a Supporting Families Practitioner from Children’s Services

. In Coventry we believe that families are the experts into their own lives, and we want to embrace this and create change; by supporting families to take the lead in their plans, in their support package and in decision making. We want to build relationships with families and partners whilst using approaches in practice that are respectful, non-discriminatory, unbiased and non-judgmental; with the aim of helping families to build their own resilience and self-reliance.

There are four locality teams across the city who coordinate help for families who are experiencing a range of problems that are impacting their family.

The Supporting Families Team can help families experiencing the following situations:

Education Children not attending school regularly and/or struggling to participate in learning	Abuse and Exploitation Young people going missing from home or at risk of exploitation or abuse
Early Years Development Bringing up young children (0-5 years) and need extra support to meet their development needs	Crime Involvement, impacted or at risk of crime and or antisocial behaviour
Mental and Physical Health Mental or physical ill health – long term health conditions including neurological conditions	Domestic Abuse Safe from domestic abuse, historical or current
Substance Misuse Drug and alcohol problems	Secure Housing Insecure housing or homelessness or risk of homelessness
Family Relationships Parenting or relationship problems – parental conflict, challenging behaviours, unsupported young carers	Financial Stability Not being in employment, financial struggles and or unmanageable debt

To get help from the Supporting Families Team, families have three or more of the issues listed above. Families with one or two issues will be navigated to early help provided by the agencies from the wider early help offer.

How to get help

You can get early help in a variety of ways including visiting one of our eight Family Hubs, calling the freephone number **0800 887 0545** or complete an early help request at <https://www.coventry.gov.uk/earlyhelp>

