

Our Criteria

Tameside STARS team supports women early in pregnancy (12 weeks or less) who have had one or more children separated from them previously and are at risk of this happening again.

Where possible the STARS team will work with both parents.

The Team

The STARS team is made up of a Team Manager, a Senior Family Intervention Worker and two Family Intervention Workers who will be working with the families for up to 2 years.

The team work closely with colleagues from midwifery and health visiting and access regular consultation from Tameside and Glossop Early Attachment Service.

Our Referrals

Our referrals can come from any agency, as long as the criteria is met.

Referrals will need to be sent by completing a MARS referral to the Early Help Access Point/ MASH team. Once a MARS has been triaged and accepted, the parent and family will be supported through an embedded pathway.

The Support Package

The package of support will be tailored to each family and includes but not exclusive to:

- 1:1/Group Parenting Support
- Parent and Child relationships/ attachment support
- Child development stages
 - Encouraging play
 - Parent Support
 - Routines

STARS Team Tameside

Hattersley Children's Centre
Melandra Crescent
Hyde
SK14 3RB

Phone
0161 368 7722

E-mail
stars@tameside.gov.uk



A Guide for Professionals

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 previously.



Key Principles

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

- **Future Focused**
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 including Midwifery, Health Visiting, Early Attachment and drug and alcohol services to offer families an individual package of support.

These principles align to the Tameside and Glossop Corporate Plan, and the co-operative principles. Furthermore, these principles align to those underpinning the Tameside Early Help Strategy.

In Tameside we will work with the family and will focus on prevention, early intervention and strengthening the relationship between the parent and infant as well as use a range of evidence and local expertise by working in partnership with others.

Our Objective

To work holistically with the family during pregnancy, using a relationship-based model, assertive outreach, strengths-based and trauma informed approaches. This will be undertaken through an Early Help Assessment.

Pre-Birth Assessment

Following the outcome of the pre- birth assessment, where the child remains in the care of their birth parent(s), the STARS team will provide intensive early help support for a period of up to 2 years, with a primary focus on attachment, parenting, and child development; as well as addressing adversity and supporting through a strengths-based approach.

If following the pre-birth assessment where the child is separated from them, the STARS team will support the parents with their emotional health and wellbeing, promote the parent- infant relationship using trauma informed approaches, and address the underlying needs, such as alcohol abuse, for up to 2 years.



Building Relationships

We recognise that parents we are working with have often had life experiences that make it harder for them to trust others and to make positive change.



Our work focuses on:

- Helping parents explore how their experiences have impacted on them.
- Supporting them to make changes for their own health and wellbeing.
- Supporting them to feel confident in their ability to care for their new born.
- Helping them identify a support network who they can ask for help and guidance.