**Service Offer for children, young people & families**

# Children and Family Wellbeing Service

**SPECIAL EDITION; DURING THE COVID 19 PANDEMIC PERIOD**

**What we do**

The Children and Family Wellbeing Service (CFW) offers early help and support to children, young people age 0-19+yrs (0 - 25yrs for SEND) and their families across Lancashire. The service responds as early as possible when a child, young person or family needs support, helping them to access services to meet their needs and working with them to ensure the support offered is right for them, is offered in the right place, and at the right time. The main focus of the service is to provide an enhanced level of support which is prioritised towards those groups or individuals who have more complex or intensive needs or who are at risk and particularly where we think that providing early help will make a positive difference. Children and Family Wellbeing staff are skilled, committed and recognise that every family has different needs. The service approach is to listen, understand and work alongside individuals and families to make the changes that will help them get to where they need to be.

Children and Family Wellbeing Service offers practical support to children, young people, parents and families. This support can be provided on a whole range of issues which may be affecting individuals or the family and is normally offered through a network of neighbourhood centres as well as in the community or in the family home.

**During the national coronavirus pandemic, in order to protect people, protect the NHS and save lives, the service is strictly adhering to government advice on social distancing.**

**Family Support Work**

**As such we have temporarily paused some of our operations in neighbourhood centre settings. The service is continuing to take requests for support for children, young people and families and allocating these to Family Support Workers who are able to respond. We are maintaining contact with our children, young people and families by making use of a wide range of technology methods such as phone and video calls, texting, etc. but we are also still home visiting families in some circumstances where needs are high and/or urgent and more person centred contact is needed. When we do home visits – we will be ensuring the safety of our staff and families by maintaining social distancing measures.**

We also normally work with children, young people, parents (and parents to be) through group programmes, activities and drop in support.

**Whilst our neighbourhood centres are unable to operate and host these services we have diverted a lot of our normal support activities to being delivered 'online'. Young people, children and families can now access a programme of group activity through on-line group sessions, tailored to meet their different needs. Some on-line group sessions run during the day and others in the evening. For those children, young people and families that we are in contact with, we will share details with them directly about how to access these opportunities.**

**Groupwork**

**If any professional or agency would like to support a child, young person or family that they know or work with, to access the on-line group programme, they can (with that individuals or families consent) refer the contact details of that person/family to our 'Talkzone' service\* who will then ensure that a local member of staff makes contact with the individual/family to provide them with the access details and support they will need to join in with groups and opportunities.**

**\* For details of our 'Talkzone' service please see overleaf.**

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| Key Contacts HEAD OF SERVICE - Debbie Duffell – Debbie.duffell@lancashire.gov.uk  |
| SENIOR MANAGER Nighat Parveen0-11 Years 07967053376 | **SENIOR MANAGER**  **Kathy Ashworth****12-19 Years** **07767248775** |
| Louise JeffersonIntegrated Service Manager Lancaster/ Morecambe Bay/ Fylde/ Wyre07815 948343 | **Tim Grose** Integrated Service ManagerGreater Preston/ Chorley/ South Ribble**07584 217752** | **Jo Latham**Integrated Service Manager West Lancashire**07876 844361** | **Ellie Waide-Mayfield**Integrated Service ManagerPennine Hyndburn/ R Valley/ Rossendale**07825 431457** | **Karen Exell**Integrated Service ManagerPennine Burnley/ Pendle**07500 065533** |
| Lee Kearns Quality Review Officer 07584 581241 | **Helen Green** Quality Review Officer**07827 873816** | **Chris Hayes** Quality Review Officer**07887 830903** | **Mark Woodruff** Quality Review Officer**07789 618083** |
| TEAM LEADERSTargeted Youth Support |  | **Brian Wood North****07795222745** | **Debs Cardwell Central/ South****07919227476** | **Gillian Lander East****07766803614** |
| DISTRICT | **Lancaster**  | **Fylde/Wyre** | **Preston** | **Chorley / S. Ribble** | **West Lancs** | **Hyndburn / Ribble Valley** | **Rossendale** | **Burnley** | **Pendle** |
| Team ManagerFamily Intensive Support  | **Wenda Tyrer** **07795 222729** | **Kevin Ashworth****01253 897345** | **Donna Whittaker****07753 604273** | **Jo McGrath 07817 623290** | **Laura Davidson 07876 844365** | **Helen Hull****07515 883143** | **Alison Lorente 07836 612403** | **Nadine Baron****07825 431438** | **Lesley Cookson****01772 531460** |
| Team Manager Neighbourhood Communities | **Vacancy** | **John Tully 07824 434355** | **Christine Nuttall** **07887831189** | **Lynda Gallagher****07500976690** | **Lesley Brown****07971533044** | **Steph Gunwhy** **07766 582864** | **Kathryn Bancroft****07795 044615** | **Sue Hopkinson****07766 776045** | **Clare Smith****07824 867429** |

Group based programmes

Targeted Support Offer

Delivering a variety of group based interventions to support parents, families, children and young people;

* Targeted towards priority groups but also in response to local need.
* **Delivered on-line throughout the week and during the evenings**
* **Using Zoom – participants will be guided on how to access the sessions**

**Group based programmes** are delivered when most needed. They offer a diverse range of activities and support sessions tailored to different groups across the age range 0-19yrs+ and with parents.

**Information on the groups and programmes we are currently making available on-line can be gained by contacting:**

**Talkzone Tel: 0800 511111 from 2pm until 10pm - Monday to Friday, at weekends and Bank Holidays.**

Providing an enhanced level of personalised support;

* To individual children, young people or families
* With higher levels of need
* From a range of identified priority groups
* Adopting a casework approach.

**Family Support Workers** deliver intensive support underpinned by a quality assessment. They often work as part of a **'team around the family'** and undertake the **lead professional** role where appropriate. Family Support Workers will **make contact regularly (at least weekly) with service users either with phone and video calls, texts or home visits.**  **Interventions** typically last up to 15-20 weeks during which we work with the individual/family to agree an **action plan** and be clear what changes we are seeking to achieve together. **Outcomes are recorded** and shared with the individual/ family through the use of a 'Radar Chart' progress model.

**Any agency can request access to this support for a family or individual by a Request for Support (e-form) available at** [Lancashire County Council – Children and Family Wellbeing Service](https://www.lancashire.gov.uk/practitioners/supporting-children-and-families/children-and-family-wellbeing-service/)

**Targeted Support Offer**

**Offer of group based programmes**

Providing an enhanced level of bespoke/ personalised support;

* To individual children, young people or families
* With higher levels of need
* From a range of identified priority groups
* Adopting a casework approach.

The targeted support offer is delivered to those assessed as having more complex or intensive needs aligned to Lancashire's Continuum of Need (CoN) at Level 2 (Early Help). **Key workers** deliver intensive support underpinned by a quality assessment (**CAF**). They often work as part of a **'team around the family'** and undertake the **lead professional** role where appropriate. Key workers will meet regularly (at least weekly) with service users either at our neighbourhood centres or through outreach, including at their own homes. **Interventions** typically last up to 12 weeks during which we work with the individual/family to agree an **action plan** and be clear what changes we are seeking to achieve together. **Outcomes are tracked** through the use of a 'Family Star' progress model.

Any agency can request access to this support via a **Requests for Support** form available at [Lancashire Children's Trust - Request for Support Form](http://www.lancashirechildrenstrust.org.uk/resources/?siteid=6274&pageid=44494) which should be submitted to; preventionearlyhelp@lancashire.gov.uk

Delivering a variety of group based interventions to support parents, families, children and young people;

* Targeting specific areas of need or vulnerabilities
* Largely targeted towards the priority groups but also in response to local need.
* Delivered from a network of 75 neighbourhood based centres countywide
* Offering a weekly programme of core or enhanced activity

Group based activities are delivered when most needed throughout the daytime Monday- Friday, with additional evening and weekend delivery as appropriate locally. **Details of locations and programmes for each centre are available through a series of 'What's On Guides'** which are available through the council's website; <http://www.lancashire.gov.uk/children-education-families/childcare-and-family-support/family-information-service.aspx> or from Talkzone Tel: 0800 511111.

Enabling children who are removed from parents/carers and are subject to Care proceedings that involve the local authority to see their parents.

Family Time

Working with partners we are working as part of **Integrated Teams** in each district area in Lancashire, made up of multi-agency professionals who will work together to jointly deliver an early help response. **During the coronavirus pandemic, Children and Family Wellbeing Service continue to work closely with our key partners with the objective of providing the best possible joined up support we can for families.** Our key partners include professionals from: Police Early Action Officers, Housing services, the local District Council, Lancashire Fire and Rescue and the Integrated (Adult) Wellbeing Service.

**Whilst schools are currently providing a different kind of support for pupils, we continue to work closely with them providing support through a 'Team around the School', supporting families that school may identify as needing some extra early help.**

**We also continue to provide specified and agreed support where Children's Social Care has identified needs within one of their individual's/family's action plans where the CFW Service is best placed to respond at this time**.

Talkzone provides **confidential telephone helpline, text message, email enquiry and online webchat** services where young people and their families can obtain a range of advice and support on issues such as problems at home, relationships, sex and health, jobs and training, mental health, drugs and alcohol, bullying and things to do.

Contact with Talkzone can lead to a referral to the CFW service targeted support offer or signposting to the CFW service group based provision and has appropriate pathways established for any safeguarding issues that arise.

**The Talkzone service can be accessed;**

* **Telephone: 0800 51 11 11**
* **Text: 07786 51 11 11**
* **Email:** **talkzone@lancashire.gov.uk**
* **Talk on-line in a private and confidential** **space by logging onto:**

<https://www.lancashire.gov.uk/youthzone/get-in-touch/>

Virtual Support

Integrated teamwork

Service Offer