Early Help
Autism Service

BARNARDO'S

Changing childhoods.
Changing lives.

Early Help Autism

The Barnardo's Early Help Autism Service is a commissioned service working in partnership with the Birmingham Children's Trust Early Help Service. Ten autism workers are responsible for ten districts across Birmingham.

The service provides support for autistic children, including those who are diagnosed, on the assessment pathway, or suspected to be autistic, and their families. Two types of support are offered: the group Cygnet Autism Support Programme and intensive support. Access to each offer depends on individual needs and eligibility criteria.

Both offers help families build an understanding of autism and develop practical strategies, with the intensive support providing a tailored plan around the family's individual needs.

The service also upskills practitioners within the Early Help Service, offering guidance and training to help practitioners effectively support autistic children and their families.

Referral process

Family Connects will be completed online either by a professional or through self-identification. The referral will then be allocated to the relevant worker based on the family's home postcode.

Key Aims of the Service

- To work collaboratively with Early Help practitioners in delivering on the actions of the family's Early Help plan, with a specific focus on autism.

- To support autistic children and their families at an early intervention and preventative level, ensuring their development and wellbeing are supported.

- To offer group work programmes to parents and carers of autistic children.

- To build knowledge and skills within the workforce to better understand and support autistic children and their families.

- To support the Early Help service with engaging families in early intervention and preventative work, offering good practice guidance related to autism.

Make a referral

Directly to Early Help Autism Service:
- *Commissioned Service Specialist Request Form: **Click Here**
- Cygnet Programme Enquiry Form: **Click Here**

For self-referral or wider Early Help support:
- Self-Identification Connect Form: **Click Here**
- *Professional Connect Form: **Click Here**

*Referral links marked with an asterisk (*) are for professional use only.

Contact Us

Telephone: 0121 359 5333
Email: earlyhelpautism@barnardos.org.uk

See our service page for more information:
 Click Here

Find Us

40 Rupert Street
Nechells
Birmingham
B7 4PS