

# Early Help Autism Service



## **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.

We provide support for autistic children and their families - whether they are diagnosed, on the assessment pathway or suspected to be autistic. Our offer includes two programmes: Cygnet Autism Support and Intensive Family Support.

Both programmes aim to build families' understanding of autism and provide practical strategies tailored to their child's unique strengths and needs. Intensive Family Support is designed to meet more complex needs through direct work and a personalised plan.

Each programme has specific eligibility criteria, which are outlined in the referral forms.

In addition, the service offers autism-informed guidance and training for practitioners across the Early Help partnership.

### Make a Referral

Cygnet Autism Support Programme Enquiry Form: **Click Here** >>>

Intensive Support - Commissioned Service Specialist Request Form: Click Here >>>

## **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 deliver consultations and professional workshops that strengthen workforce knowledge and skills, enhancing support for autistic children and their families.

#### **Referral Process**

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

Referrals for Intensive Support require an Early Help Assessment. If additional involvement from the Early Help partnership is needed, please complete the relevant Family Connect Form:

Click Here >>>

