

Families Matter: Information for families

What is Families Matter?

Families Matter is an early help and prevention programme that helps families identify the problems they are facing and provides a support worker to help to overcome them. The aim is to improve life in the long term for your family as a whole.

What's in it for my family?

- A dedicated worker who will listen, understand and support your family
- Help to focus on issues that are important to you
- Extra practical help to stop problems getting worse
- Help to access additional services if needed
- Guidance and support to make long term positive change



What can Families Matter help with?

To work with Families Matter, your family will generally meet four of the following criteria:

Antisocial behaviour & crime	A family member involved with antisocial behaviour or crime within the last year
Benefits	Adult(s) receiving out of work benefits
Child in need of help	Children require some help or support
Domestic abuse	Domestic violence and abuse are present at home
Education	Children do not attend school regularly or have been excluded
Finances and debt	Money and debt are causing problems
Good health	Lack of good physical and mental health cause problems for family life. (This can include substance misuse).

What if I don't want to work with Families Matter?

Working with Families Matter is entirely voluntary. The programme is here to help your family and if you choose to take up this offer we will need your consent to do so.

Who can I speak to?

can be contacted on

Email: fm@southampton.gcsx.gov.uk **Tel:** 023 8083 3311