Families First
St.Helens Programme
Supporting families to make positive changes

What can you expect from us?
• regular contact
• advice and practical support
• empathy, listening and understanding
• honesty and challenge
• mutual respect

What do we expect from you?
• be open and honest
• commitment to make positive changes
• consent to share information
• keeping to agreed arrangements, like appointments
• mutual respect

How do I get involved?
If you are eligible for the programme, your family will be able to access a range of different services to help in the areas mentioned above. Ask any existing worker you have contact with about the programme, or use the contact details below to find out more about the programme and discuss what type of support might be available.

Contact Details
Name: ____________________________
Organisation: ______________________
Telephone: ________________________

St.Helens Council
Early Help
Central Link Children’s Centre, Westfield Street, St Helens WA10 2EB
Tel: 01744 67 3444
Email: level2supportpanel@sthelens.gov.uk
→ www.sthelens.gov.uk

Please contact us to request translation of Council information into Braille, audio tape or a foreign language.
What is the Families First St.Helens Programme about?

Family life can be a challenge for any parent; but when you’re faced with many problems at once, it can be hard to know where to turn. The Families First Programme is an exciting new programme, funded by government and local organisations, to work with St.Helens families to:

• Improve school attendance and behaviour
• Reduce crime and anti-social behaviour
• Help adults and young people get into work or training
• Improve family life, making sure children are safe and well
• Prevent domestic violence
• Promote good health
• Reduce the harm caused by drugs and alcohol

Who is the Programme for?

It is for families where two or more of these things are happening:

• Adults are on out-of-work benefits and finding it hard to get work
• Children are not attending school regularly or have been excluded repeatedly
• Families are getting into trouble with the police because of their behaviour
• Children are vulnerable and need help
• Families are affected by domestic violence
• Parents or children have problems with mental health or drugs/alcohol

How does it work?

Families we work with will get support to help everyone in the family overcome difficulties and make positive changes. We will work with you to solve problems and make sure you get the right help, from the right people, at the right time.

The Programme can help support you in a number of ways, ranging from advice and guidance to intensive family support in your home. Other professionals you may already know will always be involved, working with you to achieve the goals you set for yourself and your family.

What sort of things could it help with?

We can provide practical, one-to-one support to help you to:

• Get your children attending school regularly
• Access free childcare or nursery places
• Set good routines and boundaries for your children
• Deal with difficult behaviour
• Get training and CV help so you’re ready to find a job
• Sort out housing issues
• Get you and your children involved in healthy, positive activities
• Manage money and debt
• Have good family relationships