

One Minute Guide

What is the professionals consultation line?

The Multi-Agency Screening Team (MAST) is a team made up of social workers, Police, Health and Early Help who work together to screen contacts/referrals to Children's Social Care, Prevention, Disabled Children's Services, Prevent and the Healthy Child Programme (HDFT) with the overall aim of ensuring children and families receive the right help at the right time. To build upon the work of the MAST a consultation line will be introduced for a trial period from the 24th January 2019 which will initially be for professionals within the Scarborough, Whitby and Ryedale areas.

The purpose of the professional consultation line is to support practitioners to identify the next steps in a timely way through quality conversations. The consultation line is not replacing the current safeguarding process and usual safeguarding processes must be followed. When contacting the MAST for a consultation you will be put through to a qualified social worker where your

query will be discussed, with the children's details remaining anonymous. The overall aim of the discussion is to help you identify the most appropriate next steps in a timely way to further promote the right help at the right time for the children and families you work with.

Trial Period and Review: The trial period will start on the 24th January 2019 until 15th August 2019. We may seek feedback from those professionals who have made contact to understand their experience which will assist in determining the overall outcomes and whether the professional consultation line should be extended across the County.

Professionals consultation line number is 01609 535070.

To make safeguarding referrals the number remains 01609 780780. To access referral information and the Universal Referral form visit: <http://www.safeguardingchildren.co.uk/worried-about-child>

