MASH Consultation Service 020 8921 2267

A telephone Consultation Service for professionals provided by Children's Social Care Multi Agency Safeguarding Hub (MASH) Team

Consultation Service aims to:

- Offer quick access to Children's Safeguarding and Social Care advice
- Provide advice on Children's Safeguarding and Social Care thresholds
- Improve information sharing about universal and target services providing early help in the borough
- Allow professionals the opportunity to talk through situations that are raising concern to help determine what an appropriate response might be, without the need for formal referral.

How the Consultation Service works:

- Consultation will be offered by the MASH Duty Manager for all professionals seeking advice about a child or children who they are concerned about.
- Anonymity of the child or children will be maintained unless both the professional involved and/or the MASH Duty Manager have good reason to believe that there is a valid safeguarding reason to disclose further details.
- Written records of the consultation will not be kept by Children's Service unless a
 formal process is required, and the contacting professional is expected to follow the
 record keeping and information guidelines for their own agency.
- Professionals and their agencies are not obliged to follow the advice offered.
- This is not a short cut or referral route into Children's Services. If a referral is required, the usual Inter-Agency Referral Form will be completed by the contacting professional following the discussion.