

SAFE IN ESSEX – (MID, NORTH, SOUTH & WEST ESSEX)

Our service provides early help and support to children and young people aged 10-18 years*. We provide awareness and interventions for children and young people identified at risk of, or already engaging in low level risky behaviours, in order to prevent further risky behaviour. *Up to 25 years old where the child has a learning difficulty.

We work with young people not involved in statutory service provision to ensure they receive services at the earliest point before risk taking behaviours escalate. These Early Help services are for children, young people and parents/carers with low level needs, as detailed in the Essex Effective Support for Children and Families <http://www.escb.co.uk/>

Usually these people's needs are best supported by those who already work with them, such as Children's Centre's, Schools, GPs. These Early Help services provide that little bit of extra help should a difficulty occur and those services cannot respond appropriately.

The only restriction to accessing these services is that the person being referred is not already working with specialist support services such as for example Emotional Wellbeing and Mental Health Services, Family Solutions, Social Care.

Confidentiality

Safe in Essex aims to offer all clients a confidential service. This means that we do not share the information that you have told us without there being a necessary need to do so or without your prior consent.

Information sharing

Replicated from the Referral form:

Why we collect personal information – We are collecting the information in this form on behalf of Essex County Council (ECC) in order to provide you with an early help support service. We may share the information in this form with other agencies in order to provide a service to you and to help make a decision about this referral so that you receive the right support. This could include: School, GP, Social Care, EWMHS, Early Help Hub and other voluntary services. ECC will also use the information to help evidence the effectiveness of the service during and after your involvement.

Why we share personal information - Sharing personal information helps us to work together to support children, young people and their families and carers. But, it is important to remember that if you don't let us share your information, this could delay or prevent you from getting the help you need.

I choose what personal information is shared about me - Most of the time we will tell you what information we might need to pass on and who we need to pass it on to. The types of information to be processed may include: Name, Date of Birth, Gender, Address, contact numbers and relevant information to inform assessment. If there is something that you don't want us to pass on about you then we won't. Please tell the person working with you.

Sometimes we have to share personal information about you without asking your permission, for example:

- * If we are worried about the safety of a child, young person or vulnerable adult;
- * If we think that a crime may be prevented or found out by sharing it; or
- * If a court order is made in criminal or legal cases

I say no

- * You can ask us not to pass your personal information to anyone else at any time
- * You can say no at first. You can always change your mind later on
- * Or if you say yes you can also change your mind later on

If you say no to the sharing of information please be aware that it might result in a reduction of services being available.

The benefits of sharing your personal information

- * It will help us make sure that you get the right sort of help
- * You can quickly find out about the different types of help available to you
- * You won't be asked for the same information lots of times

How we share personal information - So that we can safely share your personal information, some organisations in Essex such as Essex County Council, Health and the police have signed an agreement called Whole Essex Information Sharing Framework (WEISF). This means that all the organisations that have signed it must protect your personal information. For details of the charter and the organisations involved, ask the person that is working with you or you can find it on the internet at Essex partnership portal.

You can see what is on your record - If you want to check your own record or talk to someone about how safe and confidential your personal information is, you should talk to the person who is working with you.

Data Protection: For independent advice about data protection, privacy and data sharing issues, you can contact the Information Commissioner's Office, Wycliffe House, Water Lane, Wilmslow, Cheshire SK9 5AF. Tel: 01625 545745 or 08456 306060 Fax: 01625 524510 Website: www.ico.org.uk.