

Who can use our service?

Any professional working with a young person under the age of 18 can refer to the service if they feel concerned and worried that a young person might be at risk, or may pose a risk to others. Referrals can come from a range of professionals and agencies, including CAMHS, Youth Offending Teams, Social Care, Police and Education.

How to access the service

To discuss a referral, please contact the FCAMHS team.

Tel: 0300 304 0048 and select 1 for Sussex, 2 for Surrey or 3 for Kent & Medway

Email: FCAMHS@sussexpartnership.nhs.uk

For a secure transfer of information please send from an NHS.net or gsx email address.

Emailing from a private email account is not secure. If you would prefer to send the referral form via post please contact the service directly.

Please note that it is the responsibility of the referrer to seek consent from the young person to share information with FCAMHS, however you are able to seek advice from the service if you are concerned that doing this will increase the risk.

For further information

If you have any comments or concerns about our services or the care provided to someone who is using our services, please contact the Patient Advice and Liaison Service (PALS).

Tel: **0300 304 2198**

Email: pals@sussexpartnership.nhs.uk

Service provided by Sussex Partnership NHS Foundation Trust, North East London NHS Foundation Trust and Surrey and Borders Partnership NHS Foundation Trust.

South East Forensic Child and Adolescent Mental Health Service (FCAMHS)

A specialist child and adolescent mental health service for high risk young people with complex needs across the South East of England.

Single point of contact

 0300 304 0048

 FCAMHS@sussexpartnership.nhs.uk

What is FCAMHS?

Forensic (FCAMHS) is a community based child and adolescent mental health service for children and young people under the age of 18 who live in Sussex, Surrey and Kent & Medway who present with serious risk of harm to others and have a range of complex needs.

Our aim is to support local services to deliver child-centred, holistic care by supporting multiagency formulation, care-planning, risk management and intervention and by helping the wider workforce to feel more confident when working with risk and complexity.

Who is the service for?

We offer advice and support to any professionals who are working with young people whose behaviour is causing concern for their family, community or others involved in their care. The young person may have difficulties in regards to their emotional wellbeing, learning or social and communication needs. They might:

- pose a high risk of harm to themselves or others
- be in contact with, or at risk of coming into contact with, the Youth Justice System
- be receiving support from professionals who are seeking appropriate placement options due to the complexity of their needs, challenging behaviour or level of risk

Who works in the service?

The service is a highly specialist multidisciplinary team of Psychiatrists, Psychologists, Senior Mental Health Practitioners and admin support. We have three teams across Sussex, Surrey and Kent & Medway.

What does it mean if a child is 'at risk'?

Children and young people who are referred to our service present with an increased risk towards others, but are also likely to be at increased risk of harm themselves. Risk to others might be as a result of challenging, inappropriate, high-risk or criminal behaviours, and may include violence, fire-setting or sexually harmful behaviour. Children and young people referred to FCAMHS might also behave in ways which put them at physical risk, increase their risk of becoming involved with the Youth Justice System, or having a breakdown in their education or placement. It can sometimes be difficult for the professionals working with these young people.

What does FCAMHS do to help children, young people and families?

As a service we operate a consultation and liaison model, to offer advice, consultation, specialist assessment and in some cases, direct intervention with young people and their families/carers. We work collaboratively with the referrer and other agencies to provide a coordinated assessment and care plan, with an appropriate level of treatment which is balanced with the needs of the young person.

Our treatment offer for FCAMHS

ENQUIRY, ADVICE AND SIGNPOSTING

On enquiry, an FCAMHS clinician will offer advice and signposting or other services or agencies as appropriate. If consultation or direct work is indicated then the enquiry is moved to formal referral for consultation.

REFERRAL AND CONSULTATION

Formal consultation with the referrer and the multiagency network will help to develop a shared formulation of a young person and their needs, an assessment and understanding of risk and to help inform local care planning and risk management.

DIRECT FCAMHS ASSESSMENT

FCAMHS clinicians may join another professional, or meet with the young person and their family/carers separately, to think about how they are getting on and the concerns people have for them. treatment offer for FCAMHS.

DIRECT FCAMHS INTERVENTION

Sometimes FCAMHS may deliver direct, time limited intervention with young people and/or their families.