Signposting for Social Care Practitioners for Kinship Care Post-16

Safeguarding

Early Help and Family Help Services
Hampshire Early Help Services Family help services in Hampshire | Children and Families | Hampshire County Council provide support to families, children and young people facing various challenges. These services aim to intervene early to prevent issues from escalating. Key aspects include:

- **Family Support Service (FSS): O**ffers co-ordinated support for families with children up to 19 years old, and up to 25 years for those with learning difficulties or disabilities
- **Children's Centres:** Provide a range of services for families with children aged 0-5, including parenting support, health services and early education
- **Intervention Pathways:** Help professionals identify the correct level of support for families, addressing concerns such as child development, behaviour management, and mental health.

These services are designed to ensure families receive the right support at the right time from the right professionals.

Resources that may be of particular support are:
Threshold charts - Hampshire SCP
Children's Services Department
Family Help Team
NEW: Working Together to Resolve Professional Differences - Hampshire SCP

Hampshire Safeguarding Children Partnership
The Hampshire Safeguarding Children Partnership (HSCP) Homepage - Hampshire SCP is dedicated to keeping children safe and ensuring their wellbeing within Hampshire. It brings together local agencies to ensure effective child protection services. The partnership co-ordinates safeguarding services, identifies and responds to children's needs and conducts local child safeguarding practice reviews. The HSCP also provides training and resources for professionals working with children and families.

Resources that may be of particular interest are:
Toolkits - Hampshire SCP
HSCP Briefing - Thematic Review – Safeguarding Children and Reduced Educational Engagement
Valuable Children with Disrupted Education - Hampshire SCP
Educational Neglect Advice - Hampshire SCP
Multi-Agency Safeguarding Practice Development Brochure 2025-26 FINAL

Stop Domestic Abuse
STOP DOMESTIC ABUSE in Hampshire offers a range of services specifically designed to support children and young people affected by domestic abuse. These services include:

- one-to-one support: personalised support, advice and education for school-aged children (4-17 years) who have experienced or are currently experiencing domestic abuse
- group work: various group programmes aimed at improving confidence, self-esteem, understanding healthy relationships and ensuring personal safety. These groups are available for children aged 5-17

Advice Line: A confidential advice line (03300 165 112) for victims, survivors, family members and professionals seeking support or information

Trauma

Anna Freud National Centre for Children and Families
Mental Health Charity | Anna Freud supports the mental health of children through research, training and treatment and offers free resources supporting children's mental health.

Beacon House
Home is a therapeutic service with a specialist interest in working with those who have experienced trauma and loss and offers information and resources around the impact and repair of trauma and adversity.

Centre of Excellence in Child Trauma
Trauma-Informed Support for Parents, Carers & Families | CoECT is an organisation combining resources, research and knowledge from experts across the sector.

Hampshire CAMHS
Hampshire Child and Adolescent Mental Health Services Home :: Hampshire CAMHS is an NHS specialist service that supports young people aged 5-18 years and their families who are experiencing difficulties with their mental and emotional health. Key services include:

- Assessment and Treatment: CAMHS provides comprehensive assessments and tailored treatment plans for a range of mental health issues, including anxiety, depression, and behavioural problems
- Crisis Support: Immediate support for young people in mental health crises, ensuring they receive timely and appropriate care
- Therapeutic Interventions: Various therapeutic approaches, such as cognitive-behavioural therapy (CBT), family therapy, and group therapy.

Support for Kinship Carers

Hampshire's Kinship Local Offer
Hampshire's KinshipOffer.pdf sets out the support available to Kinship Carers living in Hampshire. It provides information and advice on accessing services for Kinship Carers and signposting to information for professionals working with Kinship Carers.

Hampshire Family Connections Service
The Family Connections Service at Hampshire County Council:
I'm a Special Guardian | Children and Families | Hampshire County Council
https://fish.hants.gov.uk/kb5/hampshire/directory/advice.page?id=dpFQbT16HyQ
can provide guidance, support and practical advice about special guardianship, whether you're considering a special guardianship order, currently being assessed or have had an order granted. These services include:

- support groups across the county
- training and 'lite bites' for special guardians on a range of themes, including life story, attachment and supporting children who have experienced trauma
- applications for the adoption and special guardianship support fund
- monthly newsletter

Contact via kinshipfcs@hants.gov.uk.

Kinship
Kinship is the leading charity in England and Wales dedicated to supporting kinship carers. The support offered by Kinship includes:

- advice and guidance for kinship carers
- workshops and roadshows
- support groups and peer networks
- resources for professionals, including schools and social workers
- digital toolkits for events like Kinship Care Week
- **Kinship runs an online monthly peer support group via Zoom specifically for kinship carers facing post-16 challenges.** You can register or find local advice through the Kinship Compass platform

Kinship Carers UK
Kinship Carers UK | kinship is a national charity that supports kinship carers. The charity recognises the vital role these carers play and works to ensure they receive the support, training and advocacy they need.

Roles and Responsibilities

Participation, Engagement and Attendance
Social workers and other practitioners: attendance considerations - GOV.UK highlights the importance of understanding attendance and engagement within the context of a young person's wider experiences and circumstances. Whilst attendance is no longer subject to statutory monitoring in post-16 education, patterns of absence, lateness, non-attendance or disengagement can provide valuable insight into a young person's wellbeing, support needs and educational experience.

For young people in kinship care, reduced attendance or disengagement may be linked to a range of factors, including the impact of earlier adversity or trauma, family change and loss, caring responsibilities, financial pressures, transport difficulties, mental health needs, or challenges associated with identity, belonging and relationships.

For post-16 learners in kinship care, social care practitioners should focus on:

- Understanding the underlying reasons for poor attendance, disengagement or withdrawal from learning.
- Listening to and advocating for the young person's views, wishes and aspirations.
- Recognising the impact that trauma, loss, separation and family change may have on participation and wellbeing.
- Working in partnership with kinship carers, education providers and other professionals to coordinate support.
- Identifying and addressing practical barriers such as transport, finances, digital access, housing instability or caring responsibilities.
- Supporting positive transitions into further education, training, employment or higher education.

Transition to adulthood
Kinship charity also emphasise the need for coordinated support for young people under Special Guardianship Orders as they transition to independence, particularly as SGOs and financial support often cease at this time
Services to support the transition of young people to independence – Kinship
Special guardianship guidance: Statutory guidance

Participation and Engagement

Hampshire Education Participation Team
The Education Participation Team offers individual support for young people to help them access employment, education, and training opportunities. They specialise in supporting vulnerable young people in Year 12 and 13 (aged 16 to 18) across Hampshire.
Education Participation | Education and learning | Hampshire County Council

Hampshire Futures
Hampshire Futures help to support successful participation in education, employment and training and has a statutory role in tracking and supporting post-16 participation.
Young people who are vulnerable, have a social worker, are care experienced or are at risk of becoming NEET may benefit from support
Services include:
Careers guidance
Transition support
Apprenticeship information
Support for vulnerable learners
Support where young people are NEET or at risk of NEET
Progression planning
Careers - information for young people | Education and learning | Hampshire County Council

Special Educational Needs and Disability (SEND)

Special Educational Needs and Disability Information, Advice and Support Service (SENDIASS)

Hampshire SENDIASS - Special Educational Needs Support provides impartial and confidential support to children and young people with special educational needs and disabilities (SEND), as well as their parents and carers.

Parent Guide to Special Educational Needs (SEN)

The Quick Guide - Parent Guide to SEN.pdf provides information on the support system for children and young people with special educational needs and disabilities (SEND), including the types of support they will receive at school and an overview of the application for an education, health and care plan (EHCP).

Hampshire Inspection and Advisory Service (HIAS)Special Education Needs and Disability (SEND) site and helpline
Hampshire Inspection and Advisory Service (HIAS) HIAS SEN Moodle provides a range of resources to support children with special educational needs and disabilities (SEND) in schools. Key resources include:

- **SEN support guidance:**

Offers strategies and approaches for addressing the needs of learners with SEND in the classroom

- **training programmes:**

Includes development programmes for SEN Co-ordinators (SENCOs) covering statutory understanding, co-development and best practices

- **online resources:**

Accessible via the HIAS SEN Moodle, providing guidance, webinars and updates on SEND support.

These resources aim to enhance the educational experience and outcomes for children with SEND in Hampshire.

Special Educational Needs (SEN) Service contacts | Education and learning | Hampshire County Council

Health and Wellbeing

NHS Healthier Together website

The NHS Healthier Together website is a comprehensive resource aimed at improving the health and wellbeing of children, young people and pregnant women. The website encourages collaboration between patients and healthcare professionals to enhance local healthcare delivery.

Anna Freud – School and College Resources

Anna Freud provides a range of free mental health resources for families, and education professionals working in primary, secondary and further education settings.

Free Mental Health Resources for Schools and Colleges | Anna Freud

Togetherness – The Solihull Approach

The Hampshire Solihull Approach is a partnership between Hampshire County Council and the Solihull Approach, offering free online courses for young people, parents, carers, grandparents, and professionals working with children. These courses are designed by psychologists and professionals to help understand children's feelings, development, and behaviour.

Togetherness NHS | Hampshire CTSH
Togetherness | Health and social care | Hampshire County Council
Learn - Togetherness