



Multi-Agency Safeguarding Hub (MASH)

Information for parents and carers

The MASH is a partnership between Nottinghamshire County Council, Nottinghamshire NHS health services, Nottinghamshire Police and the Probation Service working together to safeguard children, young people and vulnerable adults.

What does the MASH do?

When a professional, family member or member of the public is concerned about a child or young person's welfare or safety, they can contact us so we can look into it. This is called reporting a safeguarding concern.

Will I be told that there is a safeguarding concern about my child?

Yes. Usually you will be told at the time the concern is raised.

If the safeguarding concern has been made by a professional, for example a social worker or a teacher, they will tell you what their concerns are and may ask your permission to contact us.

Can information be shared without my permission?

Yes. Information may be shared without your permission if:

- someone is being harmed or may be harmed in the future
- the information may help to stop or solve a crime.

What happens when an enquiry is made?

Partners in the MASH will share information to decide if:

- the child or young person has been harmed or could be harmed in the future
- the child or young person or you would benefit from support from other people
- who help children and families.

What happens after the safeguarding concern?

If the child or young person is thought to have been harmed or could be harmed in the future, we will refer them to the Nottinghamshire County Council social care assessment team.

Information will also be given to the police if it is necessary to help stop or solve a crime.

If the child or young person has not been harmed but we think they or you would benefit from extra help, then their name, address, reason for the enquiry and outcome will be passed onto the most appropriate service so that you and your family get the support you need.

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We will also write to you and where appropriate the child or young person, explaining the outcome of the safeguarding concern within 10 working days.

How will my information be used?

Your information will only be used to decide whether:

- you or someone else is being harmed or may be harmed in the future
- you or your family would benefit from help and support
- a crime has been committed or could be committed in the future.

Your information will be held in a safe place and will not be shared with other people unless they have a legal power to see it.

Can I see what is written about me?

Yes. The Data Protection Act 1998 lets you ask for a copy of the information held about you. If you would like to request this contact Nottinghamshire County Council:

Nottinghamshire County Council
PO BOX 9320
NG15 5BL

Where can I get more information?

To find out more about the Nottinghamshire MASH visit:

www.nottinghamshire.gov.uk/MASH

For more information about Early Help Services call 01623 433500

Remember

If you are concerned about a child, young person or vulnerable adult and want to speak to someone, contact the Nottinghamshire MASH on

0300 500 80 80

and give as much information as you can.

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