

Referrals for a service from Children with Disabilities Team

1. There is one route for all children to be referred to the Children with Disabilities Team (CWD) this includes when children and families wish to access specialist support services and also when there are child protection concerns.
2. In order to access specialist support service a referral for a Short Break/Carers Assessment is required and if there are child protection concerns a multi-agency referral form must be completed both referral forms are to be sent to Multi Agency Safeguarding Hub (MASH).
3. Where there are child protection concerns involving a child with disabilities, the referral must be made immediately to the Multi Agency Safeguarding Hub (MASH) on the multi-agency referral form in line with the usual child protection procedures and will be dealt with within the expected timescales.
4. Requests and referrals for assessments for specialist disability services from schools and nurseries should be made through the Multi Agency Safeguarding Hub (MASH) on the Children with Disabilities Referral Short Break/Carers Assessment.
5. Parents who make enquiries about referring their child to the Children with Disabilities Team can do this directly to Multi Agency Safeguarding Hub (MASH) who will liaise with the Children with Disability Team (CWD) or they can be directed to a professional already working with child to make the referral on their behalf.
6. A member of the Multi Agency Safeguarding Hub (MASH) in conjunction with CWD Team (Duty Worker) will initially screen referrals to ensure the child meets the CWD criteria. They will send to a Duty Manager to make a decision on whether an assessment is required and whether the referral requires a Child and Family Assessment or Short Break / Carer Assessment.
7. If a request/referral is declined, appropriate advice or signposting to other services can be given.