

# Adolescent Sure Start

The team offers universal support to Southwark young people and their parents and carers via community drop-ins, covering a wide range of issues.

This is part of Southwark's Children and Family Hubs offer.

# Who is it for?

- **Young people aged 11 to 19 (or up to 25 if a young person has SEND)**
- **Parents and carers of young people within the above age range**

Some young people might attend with a parent or carer but they are also welcome to attend alone, with a friend or another trusted adult. Sometimes parents and carers may also initially attend a drop-in support session without their child being with them.

# What help is available?

The idea is that young people and their parents / carers can access support close to where they live and access support early.

## Some areas of support include:

- Education, training and employment
- Mental and physical health
- Family relationships
- Finances and benefits
- Sexual health
- SEND
- LGBTQ+
- Parenting challenges
- Domestic abuse

and much more.

**The Adolescent Sure Start team can offer support for up to 6 sessions. These take place at the locations on the next slide.**

**The team has close links with many other organisations in Southwark and can act as a gateway for young people and their parents/carers to get specialist or longer-term support, where that is needed.**



# When and Where

In-person support sessions across Southwark:

**Monday 2.30pm-5pm:** Kingwood Arts, Seeley Drive, Kingswood Estate, SE21 8QN

**Tuesday 2.30pm-5pm:** 1st Place Children and Family Hub, 12 Chumleigh Street, SE5 0RN

**Wednesday 2.30pm-5pm:** Brandon Library, Maddock Way, SE17 3NH (a nurse and DWP are also at this session, with periodic attendance from Housing)

**Thursday 1pm-5.30pm:** Damilola Taylor Centre, 1 East Surrey Grove, SE15 6DR (session led by the Youth Service and other partners present include The Nest, CGL, Princes Trust and the Youth Service).

**Friday 2.30pm-5pm:** South Bermondsey Children and Family Hub, Tenda Road, SE16 3PN

We can also offer video sessions, as needed.

# Community Assessment Tool

Some young people or parents/carers will be looking for a straightforward piece of advice or signposting when they attend a support session. However, where help needed may be more complex, we use a simple Community Assessment Tool, developed by the team, to explore what is going on for them a bit more deeply, to identify connections and priorities and to set goals together.

Community Assessment Tool - Young People

AREAS OF YOUR LIFE

1. MY HEALTH

2. HOW I AM FEELING

3. MY PARENT/CARER'S HEALTH AND WELLBEING

4. HOME/FAMILY LIFE/RELATIONSHIPS

5. MY SAFETY

6. MY FRIENDS/COMMUNITY NETWORKS

7. EDUCATION/LEARNING

8. MY FAMILY'S FINANCES/EMPLOYMENT

9. BEHAVIOUR/ROUTINES/PARENTING

Areas of my life key

9-10	7-8	5-6	3-4	1-2
Feeling confident to do as my own and know where to go for support	Feeling I can cope with things on my own	Ready to work together	Ready to make a change	Not happy
EMPH	EMPH	EMPH	EMPH	EMPH

Let's pick up to 3 areas of life that you find most challenging. (Please use mapping tool sheet to explore the most likely reason that could have led to the problem)

Don't forget to talk about what is going well. (You can also use mapping to look at the positives too)

# Partners

- We have been mapping and building relationships with lots of specialist and community organisations as well as schools and colleges across Southwark.
- Currently a **school nurse** and **DWP** (benefits) are there with us at our Wednesday drop-in session at Brandon Library. The plan going forward is for them to be present at other drop-ins. We also have periodic attendance from **Housing**.
- **The Nest** (mental health) **CGL** (drugs and alcohol) and **Princes Trust** (skills and training) and **Southwark Youth Service** are there with us at the Thursday drop-in session at Damilola Taylor Centre. This session is hosted by the Youth Service.
- Our newest site, South Bermondsey Children and Family Hub, has a range of rooms / spaces and there is a lot of potential for partners to co-locate there with us. We have access to that building all week.
- Support for younger siblings can also be obtained via South Bermondsey Children and Family Hub and 1<sup>st</sup> Place Children and Family Hub.



# Signposting, referrals and thresholds

## Sign-posting and referrals

As we are a universal service, any young person or parent / carer can access us via one of our drop-in advice and support sessions without prior arrangement.

Professionals can therefore just signpost any young person or parent/carer to us and they can just turn up at a drop-in session and be seen by one of the team. This is usually done by sharing our drop-in leaflet and/or our Southwark Council Local Offer page with families (provided at the end).

Professionals are welcome to also send some background information to our group inbox if they know that a family will be attending a drop-in but do not need to. The email address is: [adolescentsurestartteam@southwark.gov.uk](mailto:adolescentsurestartteam@southwark.gov.uk)

For any young person or parent/carer who may benefit from an initial phone or video call with us before they attend a drop-in session then an email can be sent to the group inbox (above), with a contact number provided and confirmation that the young person or parent/carer has given consent. In some circumstances we can agree to meet a young person at school or home, for the initial meeting.

## Thresholds and co-working

Whilst we will meet and triage any young person or parent/carer who attends a drop-in session, if there is a safeguarding concern or the family may meet the criteria for Family Early Help (FEH), we will refer onwards. The team is intended to offer lower-level very early support.

Where a case is already open to FEH or a Children's Social Care team, any requests for supplementary support from Adolescent Sure Start will be considered on an individual basis.



# Other projects the team is involved in

**Training community partners in using our Community Assessment Tool**

**Co-ordinating local network meetings – bringing together local organisations working in a specific part of the borough to share good practice and promote collaboration.**

**Area-specific projects responding to local themes / needs.**

**Facilitating introductions between organisations e.g. organisations to deliver sessions in schools.**

**Workshops e.g. recent Extra Familial Harm workshop for parents / carers.**

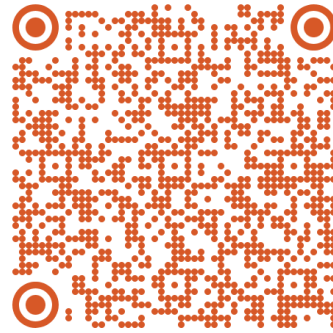
**Support around the transition from primary to secondary school.**



# Further information + Advertising

The Adolescent Sure Start Local Offer webpage  
and QR code for webpage :

[Adolescent Sure Start | Southwark Local Offer](https://www.southwark.gov.uk/adolescent-sure-start)



Email: [adolescentsurestartteam@southwark.gov.uk](mailto:adolescentsurestartteam@southwark.gov.uk)

**Drop-in Sessions for Young people**  
11-19 years (up to 25 with SEN/D) are welcome to attend alone, with a friend or with a trusted adult  
**Parents/Carers**  
with children 11-19 years (up to 25 with SEN/D)

Southwark Children & Family Hubs

A chance to learn about the services in Southwark, ask questions to the Adolescent Sure Start team and access support

Get support with the following:

- School/higher education advice and support
- Mental and physical health
- Family relationships
- Finances and benefits
- Sexual health
- SEN/D
- LGBTQ+ support
- Parenting challenges
- Domestic Abuse

and much more....

Monday  
2.30-5.00pm: Kingswood Arts, Palm Court Room Seeley Drive, Kingswood Estate SE21 8QN

Tuesday  
2.30-5.00pm: 1st Place Family Hub, 12 Chumleigh St SE5 0RN

Wednesday (with DWP & Lead Nurse Specialist)  
2.30-5.00pm: Brandon Library, Maddock Way SE17 3NH

Thursday  
1.00-5.30pm: Damilola Taylor Centre, 1 East Surrey Grove Peckham, SE15 6DR

Friday  
2.30-5.00pm: South Bermondsey Children and Family Centre, Tenda Road, Bermondsey SE16 3PN

Please contact the team if you need more information or are unable to attend a drop in session - [AdolescentSureStartTeam@southwark.gov.uk](mailto:AdolescentSureStartTeam@southwark.gov.uk)

Southwark Council

We are always happy to attend team meetings, events, youth groups etc to advertise the service, both in person and online.

If you would like us to email you posters / flyers please let us know and we are also happy to drop batches of flyers to organisations.