

Who We Are

The Family Assessment and Contact Service (FACS) is a Glasgow citywide service that provides intensive parenting capacity assessments to support planning for children aged 0 to 5 years who are Looked After Away from Home.

Since December 2011 FACS has been part of the Best Services Research Trial** aimed at improving outcomes for children aged 6 months to 60 months who are Looked After Away from Home.

FACS also works with parents of children aged 0 to 6 months.

Our Philosophy

Infants and toddlers grow and thrive in relationships where they receive consistently warm and responsive care. We aim to support timely and appropriate decision-making in relation to rehabilitation or permanency planning for children 0-5 years who are Looked After Away from Home.

FACS Team

Gillian Buchanan – Team Leader
Lisa Ness – Social Worker
Alison Timpson – Social Worker
Maureen Creaney – Social Worker
Kathleen Jardine – Social Worker
Emma Boyle – Social Worker
Anne Riddell – Social Worker
Alice McDonald – Social Care Worker
Natalie McDade – Social Care Worker
Angela Smith – Social Care Worker
Graeme Snape – Clerical Officer

* FACS no longer able to take referrals where kinship planning is underway

** Parental consent is sought for children and families to take part in the trial. Once consent is received the families are allocated to either FACS or Glasgow Infant and Family Team (GIFT).



The Family Assessment and Contact Service

Information for professionals

Main Administrative Base:

136 Stanley Street,
Kinning Park,
Glasgow, G41 1JH
Main phone number 0141 276 6690

53 Moss-side Road,
Shawlands,
Glasgow, G41 3TP
Phone 0141 276 6691

0/1, 61 West Whitby Street,
Parkhead,
Glasgow, G31 4TR
Phone 0141 556 6428



Referral Criteria -

- Children aged 0-5 years who have been in foster care *since 5.12.11

Referral Process -

- **Children 0-6 months** – Families for Children will normally notify FACS of children who have been placed in foster care. FACS will make initial contact with the allocated Social Worker and forward referral form for completion. There may be some instances where FACS referral is not required however this should be discussed with FACS Team Leader
- **Children 6 months to 5 years** – following parental consent, families are allocated to FACS through a randomised selection process as part of Best Services Research Trial**. FACS will make contact with allocated Social Worker and forward a referral form
- **Parents who dissent from taking part in research trial** can still be considered for assessment by FACS.

Assessment Process -

- **Timescales** - Assessments take place within a three month period
- **Planning and Review** - We have initial planning, midpoint and final meetings involving parents and all professionals working with the family. We ask that the allocated Social Worker invites for all meetings as they will have an overview of all who are involved
- A **working agreement** will be drawn up and signed by parents, FACS and allocated Social Worker
- **Recommendation** - At the end of our assessment, we will make a recommendation to the allocated Social Worker for either permanency or rehabilitation.

The assessment model includes -

- Interviews with parents about themselves and their relationships with their children
- Observations of parents with their children during contact

- File reading and analysis of all current and historical information
- All other relevant information is accessed and analysed e.g. psychiatric reports, child development records, medical and criminal records
- We talk to all relevant people within each case and this will include family members, relatives, professionals e.g. foster carers, addiction teams, criminal justice teams etc.

Consultations -

We provide a consultation session to support planning for children who are in foster care and do not meet the criteria for referral.

Needs of siblings will also be considered. Workers can contact FACS for a referral form.

