

LEAP Service – Information for Referrers

From **1 October 2016** Barnardos will be providing our new LEAP service and we will no longer provide a generic Family Support Service.

Barnardos LEAP Service

LEAP is a new Barnardos service to help vulnerable families better meet the needs of their children so they can reach their potential and flourish.

The service is designed to keep vulnerable children safe and to reduce the risk of maltreatment particularly where there are complex and multiple needs. The service keeps vulnerable children safe and reduces maltreatment through a social work case management approach which includes: - the holistic assessment of the child's needs, and individually tailored service interventions that respond to the underlying causes of vulnerability and address the impact of trauma.

LEAP is a 'needs'- led service, meaning we can work with each family to develop a plan and supports that are unique to them. The package might include:

- Safety planning work to keep children safe from violence
- Working with parents around the matters that impact on their children, like better ways to deal with anger
- Building better relationships between caregivers and children
- Direct work with children to address their individual needs
- Group programmes with other families on parenting or boundary setting
- Supporting families to access resources and develop supportive connections in their community

Who is eligible for the service?

The primary client group for the LEAP service are vulnerable children and their families who are being impacted by:

- family violence
- parental mental health
- alcohol or drug use
- neglect or emotional abuse
- significant child health/disability needs
- risk of or actual Statutory involvement

We are only able to provide the LEAP service where one or more of these needs are evident at referral.

Where is the LEAP service available?

Barnardos LEAP service is currently available in the following regions: Whangarei, Auckland, Waikato, Gisborne, Taranaki, Whanganui, Palmerston North, Levin, Kapiti, Lower Hutt, Nelson, Blenheim, Christchurch, rural Canterbury, Invercargill and Gore.

How long does the LEAP service work with a family?

We can offer the service in two sizes depending on the need:

LEAP - Intensive	LEAP – Targeted
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Provides an individually tailored assessment and service intervention where there are complex and multiple needs.• Up to 40 hours of worker time• Likely to be 8-12 weeks work	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Provides a short-term focused support to vulnerable families and children to address a specific development, social or parenting need.• Up to 10 hours of worker time• Up to 4 weeks work

The LEAP service will always start with one of these two packages. Additional service packages may be agreed with the referrer where the client needs require a longer intervention period.

Who can refer to the LEAP service?

The LEAP service will take referrals from:

- Child Youth and Family
- Children’s Teams/ ISR pilots
- Other social service/ community agency, or through
- Self-referrals

How do I refer to LEAP?

If you are working with or know a child or family that could benefit from the Barnardos LEAP service you can get in touch with your local office or phone us directly to find out more information **0800 BARNARDOS**.

All referrals to the LEAP Service should be made on the **Barnardos LEAP Referral form** to ensure we have sufficient information. Please contact your local office for the referral form.

Please talk with your client about the referral and ensure they agree to your sharing referral information with Barnardos.

A bit about Barnardos

Barnardos New Zealand exists for children and every day our services make an amazing difference in the lives of children and their families. We are New Zealand’s largest provider of children’s social services, and the extensive range of support we offer means we can meet you where you are and respond to your individual needs.

We’re there for all children and we provide everything from universal services for all children to intensive services for the most vulnerable. Our work assists families, communities, and society to create conditions where children have every opportunity to thrive.

If you’d like more information about LEAP or any Barnardos service, visit our website at www.barnardos.org.nz or give us a call on 0800 BARNARDOS