

## REFERRAL CRITERIA

Professional or parental concern exists regarding a baby/child's (0-3rd birthday) mental or emotional development and presentation.

The parent's issues impact on the parent child relationship.

Despite intervention; professional or parental concerns remain regarding the parent child relationship.

*(Parent also refers to main care giver)*

### HOW A REFERRAL CAN BE MADE

Referrals should be made in hard copy on the i-CAMHS referral form and should be sent by any professional to the CAMHS referral coordinators in each local CAMHS team.

*In all cases contact will be made with the referral agent and the Infant's GP and Health visitor.*

## CONTACT DETAILS

### ARMAGH & DUNGANNON

#### CAMHS TEAM

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### CRAIGAVON & BANBRIDGE

#### CAMHS TEAM

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### NEWRY & MOURNE CAMHS TEAM

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Newry  
BT35 8EQ  
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Southern Health  
and Social Care Trust

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## i-CAMHS



### INFORMATION FOR PROFESSIONALS

*“Helping parents understand and respond to their infant's unique way of communicating is probably the most important intervention to the infant's development of a secure attachment.”*

*P Svanberg (2002)*

October 2012

## INFANT MENTAL HEALTH

The World Association for Infant Mental Health defines infant mental health as the ability to develop physically, cognitively and socially in a manner which allows them to master the primary emotional tasks of early childhood without serious disruption caused by harmful life events.

Because infants grow in a context of nurturing environments, infant mental health involves the psychological balance of the infant-family system.

*(WAIMH Handbook Vol 1)*



## INTERVENTION

The Southern Health and Social Care Trust offers Specialist Infant Mental Health intervention within Tier 2 and Tier 3 Child and Adolescent Mental Health Services (CAMHS).



i-CAMHS provides promotion, prevention, early intervention and treatment in the area of infant mental health to the families of babies/children (0-3rd birthday).

## INFANT MENTAL HEALTH PRACTITIONER

The practitioner is a member of CAMHS.

The practitioner's role is to support parents' developing relationship with their baby/child by providing direct clinical work and therapeutic programmes in an effort to improve their interaction and relationship and promote the baby/child's mental health.

The practitioner will forge links with other professionals as appropriate to individual care.

