

Family Drug and Alcohol Court (FDAC)

An alternative problem-solving court for care proceedings for families where drug and alcohol are a significant factor.

What is it?

A specialist independent family court team made up of social workers, substance misuse and mental health workers and a psychologist. FDAC provides a dynamic risk assessment and co-ordinates an intervention plan for parents during care proceedings.

FDAC focus on motivating parents to take responsibility for making changes to their own lives, positively changing their behaviour and working towards achieving abstinence from substance misuse to improve their children's lives.

How will it help?

- **Builds on parent's potential and motivation to change.**
- **Provides quick access to support and regular drug testing allowing parents to address their substance misuse and other issues.**
- **Increases the number of children staying with, or returning to, their birth parents at the end of care proceedings.**
- **Provides a choice for parents to support engagement and relationships.**
- **Allows parents to have regular discussions with the Judge as part of reviewing their process.**
- **Close working relationships with all professionals already involved with families.**
- **An evaluation of other national FDACs has evidenced better outcomes for parents, children and families than in normal proceedings with more parents overcoming their substance misuse.**

Get in touch

Email us at FDAC@Somerset.gov.uk

Visit www.somerset.gov.uk/social-care-and-health/drugs-and-alcohol