



Manchester University
NHS Foundation Trust

Patient Information Leaflet:

Manchester Damp and Mould Project



What is the Manchester Damp and Mould Project?

The Manchester Damp and Mould Project provides a way to get help when your child's health is being affected by damp and mould in your home.

What is damp and mould?

Moisture occurs in homes through activities such as bathing, cooking, and drying clothes. Outside sources, such as a leak, or a broken or blocked guttering, can also cause moisture. When moisture cannot get out, it can lead to damp and mould.



What effects do damp and mould have on my child's health?

- Breathing problems (asthma, bronchitis)
- Allergic reactions (sneezing, red eyes, skin rash)
- Worsening of existing health problems.

What signs of damp and mould should I look out for in my house?

- Bad smells
- Dark patches on walls, ceilings, or floors
- Peeling wallpaper or paint
- Water droplets on windows.



How can the Manchester Damp and Mould Project help my child?

Your child's doctor, nurse or other healthcare professional can refer you for support to manage damp and mould in your home. To be eligible, the home your child lives in must be located in the borough of Manchester and your child must have a health condition that is made worse by damp and mould in your home. The support you receive will depend on the type of housing your child lives in:

Private rented housing

- Manchester City Council will contact your landlord to manage the damp and mould
- Please ensure that you have reported the issues with damp and mould to your landlord. More help on how to go about this can be found on the [Council's website](#).

Social rented housing

- Manchester City Council will ask the owner of your social rented housing (the Registered Provider Landlord) to inspect your property and act on any issues they find.

Privately owned housing

- Manchester City Council will refer you to Manchester Care and Repair for an inspection of your property. If damp and mould are identified, Manchester Care and Repair may carry out work in your home to address this, if funding is available.

What should I expect once my child has been referred by a healthcare professional?

Once you have been referred by a healthcare professional you will be contacted by Manchester City Council, your registered provider, or Manchester Care and Repair for further information. This should be within a few days.

If I live in a rented house, does my landlord need to be contacted about the damp and mould?

Yes. You should report any problems with your home to your landlord and they should fix them. If they don't fix the problem, the Council will work to address this with them.

What should I do if I think making contact with my landlord could put my tenancy at risk?

Your landlord is obliged to carry out repair work to help to deal with any damp and mould issues. If they don't fix the problem, the Council will work to address this with them. If your landlord threatens you with eviction, you should contact Shelter on **0808 800 4444** for support.



What personal information do I need to provide?

We need your name and address, and your contact details (phone number and email address).

Who will my personal information be shared with?

It will be used by the Council in relation to damp and mould only. It may also be shared across Council departments, Manchester Care and Repair and other housing providers, ie. your social housing landlord. We will only share this information with your consent.

Will this cost me money?

- If you live in private or social rented housing, your landlord is responsible for the cost of addressing any damp and mould
- If you own your home, we may ask for a financial contribution depending on your circumstances. However, Manchester Care and Repair may be able to help you access funding to pay for the work, such as low-cost home-improvement loans, repaid by affordable monthly repayments.



What else can I do to stop damp and mould in my house?

- **Ventilate:** Open windows and use extractor fans.
- **Regulate your heating:** Keep your home a constant temperature.
- **Insulate:** Ensure your home is properly insulated.
- **Repair:** Fix leaks and other sources of moisture quickly.
- **Clean affected areas:** Use a mould remover or a mixture of water and detergent.
- **Reduce moisture:** Use dehumidifiers and avoid drying clothes indoors.



Image: Dehumidifier working to reduce moisture on window.

Where else can I look for advice and information?

[Dampness and leaks – Manchester City Council](#)

[Damp and mould in private rented homes – Shelter England](#)

[National Energy Action \(NEA\) – the UK's leading fuel poverty charity](#)



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