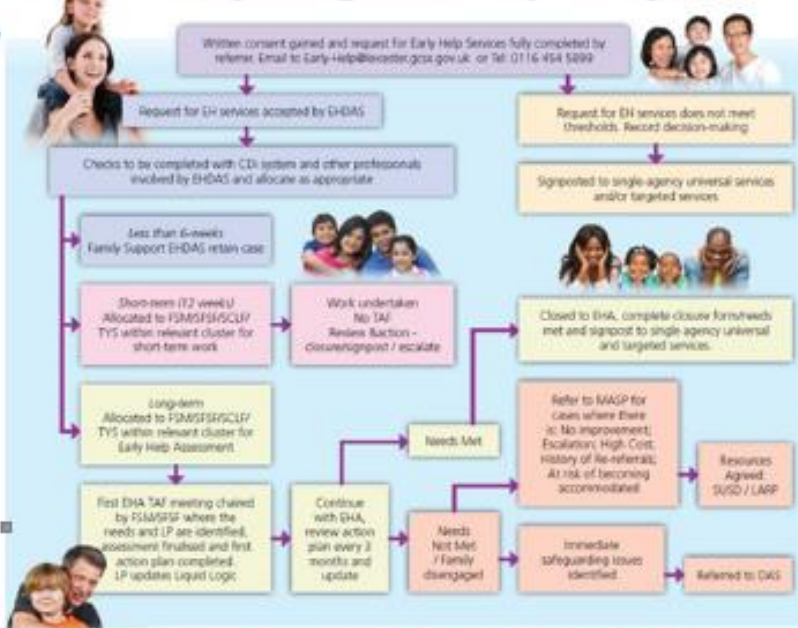


LCC Early Help Pathway at a glance



Early Help

Wolsey House Primary School

| Glossary | Advice Point | Targeted Support | Early Help Assessment |
|---|--|--|--|
| What | Advice, Signposting or low-level support for children, young people and families. | Short-Term (up to 3 months) targeted support for children, young people and families through a single agency working alongside the referring agency such as: • Family Support • Targeted Youth Support • Child Learning | Longer-term (up to 12 months but could be longer) multi agency support for children, young people and families using a team Around the Family approach with an identified Lead Practitioner. |
| Who | Any individual, family or professional in need of information or advice or support without it becoming a case. | Families with needs (2 or less) and who would benefit from the interventions available through Family Support Child Learning and Development or Targeted Youth Support | Families with multiple, complex needs (3 or more) that would benefit from a co-ordinated, multi agency response |
| Contact/ referrals | Contact your local advice point (see back of leaflet for details) | Contact the Early Help in Duty and Advice Service (see back of leaflet for details) | |
| Contact Details - EHA Coordinator email: Early-Help-Queries@leicester.gov.uk | | | |



What is early help?

Early help is a way of providing help and support to families at the right time to prevent issues from escalating. It's for children and young people of any age.

Eligibly Criteria for an Early Help Assessment (formally CAF)

The eligibility criteria for an Early Help Assessment are defined as:

- A family has 3 or more needs that are likely to impact on outcomes for children and young people
- These needs are complex and are beyond the remit and capacity of a single agency response
- A co-ordinated multi agency response is required working alongside universal services.

Which children, young people and families is EHA aimed at?

The EHA is aimed at children and young people with complex needs:

- Who have needs that are not being met by their current provision
- Who would benefit from an assessment to help a practitioner understand their needs, determine whether other services should be involved in providing support and engage further services
- Who are particularly vulnerable (e.g. Persistent truants, excluded pupils, sexually exploited children, victims of crime and young runaways)

The EHA is not appropriate for:

- The majority of children and young people who are progressing satisfactorily towards successful outcomes within universal services
- Situations where an immediate statutory or specialist assessment is needed or is the most appropriate way to determine support required
- A child or young person about whom there is concern that they may be suffering, or may be at risk of suffering, harm. In such instances, Leicestershire, Leicester & Rutland Safeguarding Children Board procedures should be followed without delay

Referral Process for an EHA

Anyone can complete an EHA referral, sending it to the Early Help in Duty and Advice Team: Early-Help@leicester.gov.uk

All referrals will be screened by the Early Help in Duty and Advice Team and if it meets the eligibility criteria and threshold, will allocate this to the appropriate cluster.

Once the EHA referral has been allocated, professionals and the family will be invited to a 'Team around the Family' (TAF) meeting where the assessment will be updated, a lead practitioner identified and a plan of action agreed and reviewed every 3 months until needs are met. Tel: 0116 229 8220

Consent

The EHA is a voluntary assessment process and, as such, a child or young person and/or their parent/carer must give consent at the start of the process for the assessment to take place in the full knowledge of what will happen to this information

Early Help Assessment Plans

The Early Help meeting must prepare an action plan which identifies the key agencies, resources and services which will be needed to achieve the planned outcomes within the agreed timescales. The plan must include:

- The desired outcome
- Highlight the strengths of the family
- Describe the identified developmental needs of the child and services required to meet need.
- Include realistic and specific actions to achieve the desired outcomes.
- Include a contingency plan if circumstances change
- Include achievable timescales.
- Identify the key agencies and their responsibilities, including frequency of contact with family members/visits to the child.
- Identify Review Date within the agreed timescale of 3 months.