

You will be fully involved in the assessment, and with your agreement and signed consent, the information will only be shared with the people who need to know it – these are the people who can help you to get the support that you need or who will provide you with that support. The information that you provide will be processed in accordance with GDPR legislation.

The EH Assessment will lead to the development of an **EH Plan** with one person responsible for co-ordinating all of the support with you. This person will become the **Lead Practitioner**. The Lead Practitioner will work alongside you and will be your main contact while you need Early Help support. They will arrange appointments with you, your family and the other services that can help you.

Your children will also be encouraged to discuss their needs and to be at some of the meetings and appointments to ensure that the right help is being provided for them, and to ensure that their views and wishes are being considered.

## WHAT SERVICES WILL I RECEIVE?

It depends on what you need and might include services that you already get. It includes other people working together with you to support you and your family. This may be people from **education and learning** such as schools, colleges, nurseries and child care settings, or people from **health services** such as GPs, health visitors, school nurses and children and young people's mental wellbeing services. It may also include people who work in **advice and welfare** such as the Job Centre, housing support, or other community settings such as the Neighbourhood Policing Teams (NPT) who you may know as your local Police Community Support Officers (PCSOs).

## WHAT HAPPENS WHEN I NO LONGER NEED SUPPORT FROM EARLY HELP?

Generally this will be because by working with the Lead Practitioner and the services who have supported you, you and your family have become confident and able to find your own solutions. You can still continue to use all services that have open access to families and children, and if your needs change over time then you can ask for further help if you need it.



### CONTACT US

For queries and more information about **EARLY HELP** please contact the Team Manager:

**West Family Hub  
Prevention and Early Help Service  
Farcliffe Children and Family Centre  
56 Toller Lane, Bradford BD8 8QH**

Tel: 01274 436700  
Email: [FamilyHubWest@bradford.gov.uk](mailto:FamilyHubWest@bradford.gov.uk)

The wording in this publication can be made available in other formats such as large print and Braille. Please call 01535 618005.

[www.bradford.gov.uk/earlyhelp](http://www.bradford.gov.uk/earlyhelp)



**GETTING THE  
RIGHT HELP  
AND SUPPORT  
FOR YOU AND  
YOUR FAMILY**



[www.bradford.gov.uk/earlyhelp](http://www.bradford.gov.uk/earlyhelp)

# WHAT IS EARLY HELP?

**EARLY HELP (EH)** is a way of getting extra help and support when your family needs it, but getting it as soon as difficulties start, rather than waiting until things get worse. It's for children and young people and their families. It's available at any point in a child's life, from pregnancy through to adolescence (19 years old), and up to age 24 for Special Educational Needs and Disabilities (SEND).

Help can come from all kinds of services and organisations who work together to support your family. You might be using some of these services already, but we want to make sure they are providing the right support for you and your family's needs.

## WHY WOULD I NEED EARLY HELP?

Lots of families might need support at some point in their busy lives. It could be that you're worried about your child's health, development or behaviour, or perhaps because you are caring for a disabled child. Your child may be struggling to go to school or you may be struggling to send your child to school. Maybe your child is affected by family relationships, drugs or alcohol or you are experiencing personal distress or anxiety, financial or housing problems.

By getting help from the right services at the right time, and as early in a child's life as possible, we can help to prevent or reduce potential problems for children as they grow up.

“ The lengths that you went to, to support me and engage with my daughter were exceptional. ”

## WHO DO I ASK?

Have a chat with a teacher, a health professional or support worker – they can help you look at what types of support are available and who might be able to help you.

Your local Family Hub also has lots of services and support for families with children, some especially for children with extra needs.

Sometimes, someone that you know and already have a working relationship with such as your health visitor or your children's teacher, might be able to see that you need support and they will talk to you about Early Help and how it could help you and your family.



“ It's been a long road to get here. Without all your help and hard work, I really don't think we could have done it. Thank you so much for believing in us and supporting us. ”

## HOW DO WE WORK TOGETHER?

We work together with you whenever you need our support, and we don't judge. There are lots of services available in Bradford but it's not always obvious which ones are available to you or how you can find them. Sometimes you might just need sign posting to a service e.g. benefits or debt advice, or a counselling service. Sometimes this may not be enough to help you, and the person you speak to might need to gather more information from you so that we can better understand your circumstances and match you up with services that would help you out the most. This person will work with you to do an assessment of your family's needs. This is known as an **EH Assessment**.

*continued overleaf*