CITY OF LONDON

CITY OF LONDON EARLY HELP OFFER

The right help, at the right time, in the right place

Early Help delivers:

the right help
at the right time
in the right place

What is Early Help?

The Early Help service works with children, young people and families to provide extra support where there are indicators of emerging difficulties or additional needs.

This could be for example:

- Support to families with significant housing needs
- Support where a parent/carer or child is experiencing Mental Health and or emotional difficulties.
- Transition advice and support for children.
- Help and guidance to Teenagers and young people up to 18.
- Parenting support and advice.
- Support for children with Special Educational Needs and Disability and health needs.

We offer:

A range of support services which will be tailored to your individual circumstances and needs, which includes:

- Individualised 1:1 support for children, young people and parents/carers.
- Referrals to specialist agencies.
- Advocacy and Signposting.
- Parenting Support (Including parenting classes).
- Systemic Family Therapy.
- Behavioural support and guidance.

What is Team Around the Family (TAF) Approach?

The Early Help 'Team Around the Family' model encourages joint working between all the people supporting you at the same time through regular meetings. Parents children and young people are encouraged to play a key role in TAF meetings with the aim of creating a plan to improve your situation and achieve your outcomes.

The TAF approach means that you will not have to keep repeating your story as everyone will be working together and following one plan. Support is delivered and monitored through use of the Early Help Assessment (EHA) and through regular TAF meetings and reviews. Early Help operates across the full range of multi-agency partners which includes Health, Education, Housing, voluntary agencies and others.

Can I say 'No' to Early Help Support?

Yes – Early Help is a consent-based service. If you would like our support, then we hope that you would be happy to work with Early Help. We cannot work with you or your family without you providing us with your consent.

Working with Early Help does not mean you are under 'Social Services care', we are a tier-two targeted service who are here to offer additional support, separate to social services. If you have previously been working with Social Care, a Social Worker may recommend that you work with our service once the work with Social Care has completed.

I'm worried about my teenager's behaviour

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How can I access Early Help?

My child has SEND needs and I'd like more support and guidance

Many services in the City of London Corporation can refer you to Early Help, including Schools, Health services, Early Years provisions including Children's Centres and others. You could speak to a professional who may already know you to request a referral to Early Help.

I'm feeling lonely

You can also self-refer yourself and your family to our service by calling the City of London Children & Families Team – Early Help on: 020 7332 3621.

I'm experiencing financial difficulties and I'm worried about housing and money

Further Early Help information can be found on our website:
www.cityoflondon.gov.uk/earlyhelp