

## What is early help?

 Early help, also known as early intervention, is a service that supports children, young people, and their families. It can be provided at any stage of a child's life, from before birth to adulthood



### What is Early help's purpose?

To help children and young people reach their full potential

To prevent problems from escalating

To help families build on their strengths and resources

To help families access relevant services

To help families make positive changes to their lives

#### Who can receive early help?

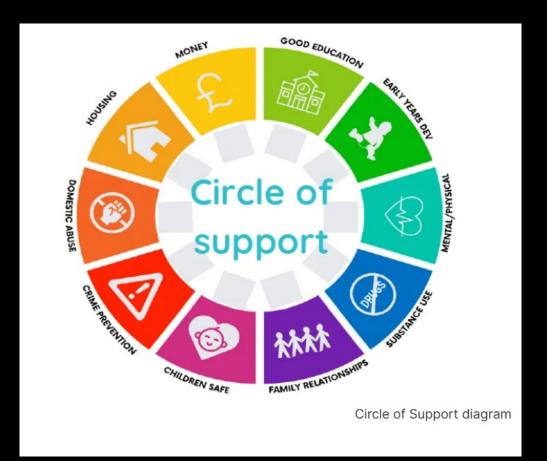
Children, young people, and their families

Parents who are facing challenges

## Shropshire safeguarding community partnership

- Early help is a team effort, not just one service. All agencies that work with children, young people and families are responsible for listening to their concerns and worries. They'll work closely with families to make sure they get the right support at the right time.
- Our goal is to strengthen our relationships in communities, where we all work together, combining our ideas with other services to help families in Shropshire.
- If you're concerned about a child or would like some advice and support, call **0345 678 9021**.





- You may want to access support for the following reasons...
- You're worried about your child's health, development, behaviour or how things are going at nursery/school/college
- You're worried about your physical health or mental health and how this is impacting upon your family
- You're worried about money or your housing situation and how it is affecting your family
- You, your child or your family is affected by alcohol, drugs, crime or domestic abuse
- You've had bereavement in the family that has made life challenging
- You're caring for a disabled child or you are a young person caring for other people

# Where can I get early help from?

- If you feel that you and your family would like support, and you feel that you can speak to someone in your life you trust (perhaps a teacher, an early years practitioner, a health visitor or any other professional who is supporting you), they'll work with you to solve some of the problems that you're facing.
- Information about the early help support available in Shropshire can be found <u>on our 'What is the early help offer?' page.</u>

## What will happen after I contact early help?

- Initially you'll have a conversation with your trusted person to discuss the concerns you have. They'll explore the help and support you think you may need. They might provide you with some information or signpost you to another service that can help, or they may also suggest completing an <u>an early help assessment</u> which captures some of your family's worries and concerns.
- This assessment will capture what's going well, what you're finding difficult and the support you feel that you need as a family to improve things. This will help us plan the next stage, where we'll create together a family action plan. We'll work out together who you feel will be the best people, including practitioners from early help partner agencies, to support you. It's useful for everyone to come together to have a 'Team around The Family' meeting. During these meetings, we'll agree who the most appropriate person is to lead the action plan, and they'll be known as your 'lead professional'.

• If you feel that you may benefit from early help, then please see to a member of the school safeguarding team and we can support you in your referral.

• 01952 468220



As part of our safeguarding partnership, we work with multiple local authorities. Click the link to find out how your local authority can support you and your family.

- Shropshire
- Sandwell
- Dudley
- Wolverhampton
- Telford and Wrekin
- Staffordshire
- Warwickshire
- Birmingham
- Coventry
- Herefordshire
- Solihull
- Stoke-On-Trent
- Walsall