

**Early Help Assessment Guidance**



This tool should be used as a prompt for discussing the situation the Family/child/YP.  
Focus on positives as well as identifying areas of need.

<b>Child development</b>	<b>Family and Environment</b>
<p><i>Health</i> Are there any specific health issues? Is X registered with a doctor? Is X registered with a dentist? Are immunisations up to date? Does X eat a healthy/balanced diet? Does X engage in physical activity? Are there concerns regarding X's hearing, vision or motor skills? Is X the right height/weight for their age and stage? Are there any concerns regarding X's speech and communication skills?</p> <p><i>Education</i> Does X ask questions to improve their understanding of something? Does X enjoy going to school/college/training/work? Does X have a favourite lesson/activity/pastime? Are there any attendance issues? What does X want to do when they leave school/college/training?</p> <p><i>Emotional and behavioural</i> Is X fairly resilient or do they get upset easily? Is X easily led by others? Does X have any unusual phobias or fears? Does X respect other people's property and things? Has X ever been involved in offending or anti-social behaviour? Does X think about their actions or are they impulsive? Is X involved with any inappropriate sexual behaviour? Is X involved with any risky behaviour?</p> <p><i>Identity</i> Can X identify significant people in their life? Can X understand their place in their family? Has X experienced any discrimination because of race, gender, sexuality, disability or religious beliefs?</p> <p><i>Relationships</i> Does X have a best friend? Does X have other friends their own age? Does X have caring responsibilities at home or elsewhere? Has X ever been away from home and family? Are there any negative influences that family are concerned about?</p> <p><i>Presentation</i> Does X present as being happy? Is X dressed appropriate for age Is X dressed appropriately for the weather? Does X have appropriate school uniform? Does X present as being well behaved at home? Does X present as being well behaved at school?</p> <p><i>Abilities and skills</i> Does X try to work things out for themselves or do they often seek help with relatively simple problems? Is X independent for their age? Does X want more independence than their parents are willing to give because of their age or other concerns?</p>	<p><i>Who's Who</i> Who lives in the family home?</p> <p><i>Community</i> How do X and parent describe the area where they live? Does X attend any extended school activities? Does X volunteer?</p> <p><i>Social Integration</i> Does parent use any local facilities (library, Children's centre etc.)? Does X use public transport or does parent tend to transport X where ever they want to go? (if appropriate) Do the family feel socially isolated?</p> <p><i>Income</i> Have parents received any benefits/financial advice?</p> <p><i>Employment</i> Are there any issues of unemployment?</p> <p><i>Housing</i> How many people live in the house? Does the house have adequate facilities? Are there any payment concerns/arrears?</p> <p><i>Family Networking</i> Does X have a strong sense of family? Other than close family, is there any wider family that X has contact with? Does parent have support from extended family?</p> <p><i>Family history</i> Is there a history in any particular illness in the family? Are there any issues that might impact on X's wellbeing?</p> <p><i>Family functioning</i> Are there any mental health concerns in the family home?</p>

<b>Parenting Capacity</b>	<b>Risk</b>
<p><i>Basic care</i>                      Is parent able to provide for X's need for food, warmth and shelter etc.?                      Does parent take X for regular check-ups/ensure they attend medical appointments?                      Does parent provide a healthy diet and ensure that X engages in physical activity appropriate to their age?                      Does parent respond appropriately to X's health needs?</p> <p><i>Safety</i>                      Is X safe in the family home?</p> <p><i>Warmth and Love</i>                      Does parent provide support to ensure X is happy and resilient?                      Does parent make X feel part of the family?                      Does parent praise X for something they have done well?                      Who does X go to if they have a problem or are scared?                      How does parent manage any phobias and fears?</p> <p><i>Stimulation</i>                      Is parent able to help X with homework?                      Does parent get involved in play with X (if appropriate)?                      Does parent get involved with school activities?</p> <p><i>Guidance and boundaries</i>                      Has parent attended any parenting programmes?                      Does parent model pro-social behaviours?                      Is parent concerned about any aspect of X's behaviour?                      How does parent manage X's behaviour?                      Are parent's aware of any inappropriate sexual or risky behaviour?                      Does X accept parent's advice and guidance? Now or in the past?                      Is X respectful towards parents/other members of the family?</p> <p><i>Stability and security</i>                      How many homes has X lived in?                      How many schools has X attended?                      Does parent encourage attendance at school/college/training?</p>	<p><i>Concerns and strengths</i>                      Is the home clean?                      Is the home safe?                      Are there any dangers? (Home conditions, environmental, social and economic well-being)                      Is X able to access education and the local community safely?</p> <p><i>Harm &amp; severity</i>                      Is X at risk of any harm or danger, including self-harm?                      How does this affect X?</p> <p><i>Protection</i>                      What measures have parents put in place to protect X?</p> <p><i>Causal or determining factors</i>                      Are there any barriers to change?</p> <p><i>Ability to change</i>                      Does X want change?                      Does X engage with support services?</p> <p><i>Parental cooperation</i>                      Does parent/s engage with support services?</p> <p><i>Motivation</i>                      Does parent believe that the Early Help Assessment will help X                      Does parent believe that the Early Help Assessment will help the family?</p> <p><i>Impact on child now</i>                      If nothing changes now what will happen?</p> <p><i>Anticipated future impact</i>                      What will happen if nothing changes?</p> <p><i>Timelines</i>                      When do safety measures need to be implemented?</p>