



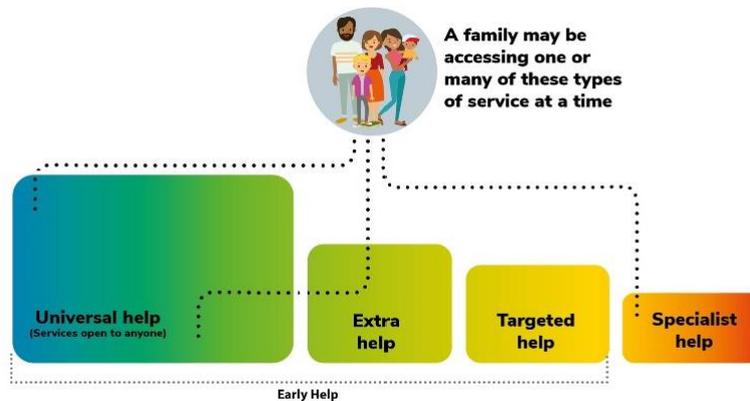
## EARLY HELP UPDATES

October 2021

**FAO All Headteachers, Designated Safeguarding Leads and Early Help Lead Professionals**

Dear Colleagues,

As the new academic year is now well underway I thought it would be a useful time to provide you with some Early Help updates. We are eager to ensure as a network, colleagues have all the relevant information to ensure children and families can receive the 'right support at the right time'.



There is a wealth of information, advice and guidance available on the Children and Families pages of the Warwickshire website as part of the stepped approach to Early Help:

<https://www.warwickshire.gov.uk/children-families>

This includes:

### **Parenting programmes, courses and workshops:**

A comprehensive range of online courses and practitioner led workshops and parenting programmes are available as part of universal and extra help. An overview of the programmes is available in a [printable leaflet](#) which can be shared with parents/carers in addition to information and booking details available through eventbrite. For more information please access the following webpages: [Parenting courses and workshops](#)

Additional programmes and support are available from the Parent Trainer Team as part of Targeted Help, please contact Sam Wilkinson, Team Leader [samanthawilkinson@warwickshire.gov.uk](mailto:samanthawilkinson@warwickshire.gov.uk) for more information.



### **Family Support Line:**

The Family Support line (01926 412412) continues to offer immediate advice, support and guidance to professionals, parents and carers, Monday to Friday from 9.00 a.m. – 4.00 p.m. Further information can be found in the following link: [Family Support Line](#)

Family Support Drop In sessions are beginning to be reintroduced to localities, please contact the family support line for more information.

### **Early Help and Family Support Network:**

As part of our ongoing support to practitioner across Warwickshire the team are offering locality Early Help and Family Support Network events.

**Early Help Networks** are well established events which provide advice, support and guidance to trained Early Help Lead Professionals or partners interested in finding out more about Early Help prior to accessing the training. Sessions are led by locality Targeted Support Officers who share useful information, explore needs in the area and further strengthen the Early Help process to support children and families whilst enabling networking opportunities between organisations.

**Family Support Networks** are an additional support mechanism for any partner working as a Family Support Worker or Pastoral Lead in their organisation. The sessions aim to share best practice, skills, knowledge and support from partners across the locality and will include restorative solution circles.

A schedule of events across the academic year in each locality have been coordinated including the Teams links to access the meeting and can be found via the following link: [Network Events Dates and Teams Links](#). Please add these to your calendars, we look forward to seeing you there!

### **Spectrum of Support**

The Spectrum of Support was launched over the summer and provides guidance for all practitioners in working together with children and families to provide early help and specialist support. This is Warwickshire's updated threshold guidance as detailed in Working Together to Safeguard Children 2018. It sets out the local criteria for action in a way that is transparent, accessible and easily understood.



The Spectrum of Support references the Early Help Directory which will be launched shortly and will provide details of organisations and support available across the 6 domains of Early Help shown on the triage tool within the Early Help Pathway Assessment and within the Spectrum of Support. More information to follow.

### **Early Help Social Workers and Locality Discussion Panels:**

The team currently have two Early Help Social Workers (a third is currently being recruited), Ettie (Etoile) Lynch and Shar Randall. The Social Workers are Advanced Practitioners, which reflects their experience in the field. Early Help Social Workers can be consulted where the needs of children and families open to Early Help are beginning to escalate or to support families transferring into Early Help from a Social Care intervention.

Where the needs of children and families supported through Early Help are escalating and there are no immediate safeguarding concerns it may be agreed with the consent of the family for the needs to be presented at a Locality Discussion Panel where the circumstances for the family and the interventions provided are discussed and consideration given as to whether a social care children and families assessment may be beneficial. The Early Help Social Workers provide a significant role in presenting families at the panel and need to be consulted as part of this process. The Early Help Social Workers can be contacted through your allocated Targeted Support Officer, Locality Team Leaders or by contacting the Early Help Monitoring Team [earlyhelpmonitoring@warwickshire.gov.uk](mailto:earlyhelpmonitoring@warwickshire.gov.uk)

### **Transfer of Early Help Plans:**

Just a reminder that all Early Help Pathway Plans should transfer with children and young people as they transition to their new schools or setting to enable the support for the family to continue. If you require any further advice and guidance regarding this please contact the Early Help Monitoring team on the details above.

### **Training:**

Please visit the Warwickshire Safeguarding Children Board website for a full breakdown of the comprehensive training programme available to you for 2021/22

[Training Flyer](#)



**Early Help Contacts:**

In recent months we have been delighted to welcome some new members to the Early Help Team and they will be reaching out to localities to introduce themselves. The names and contacts details for the Early Help team can be found on the Warwickshire Children and Families pages through the following [link](#).

Please do not hesitate to get in touch with the team if you have any further queries.

Kind regards

**Stacey Gill**

Operations Manager – Early Help and Targeted Support