

# Early Help for Devon's Children and their Families



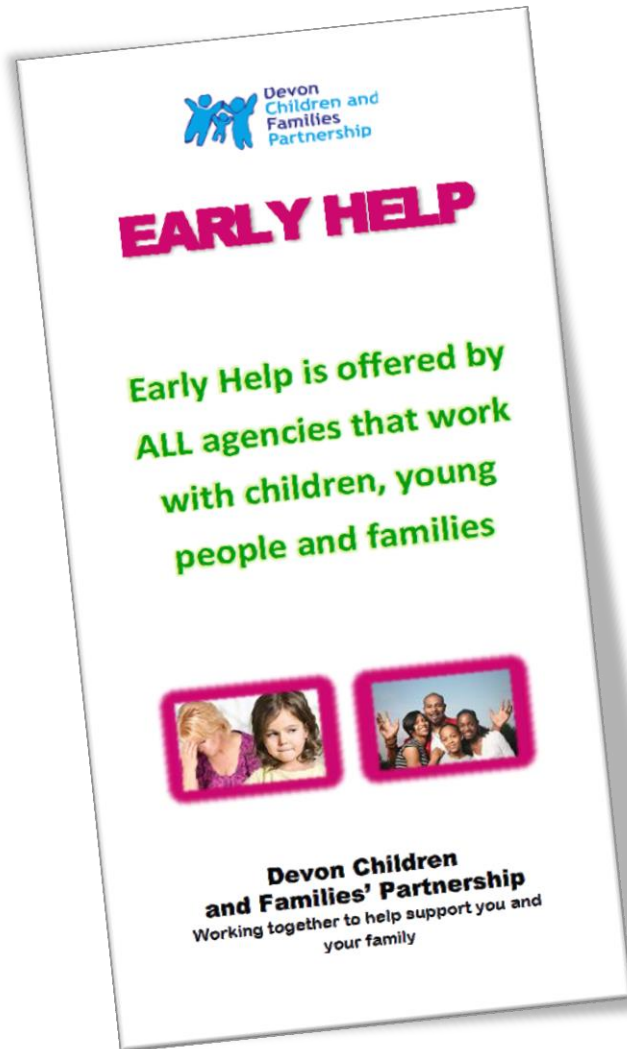
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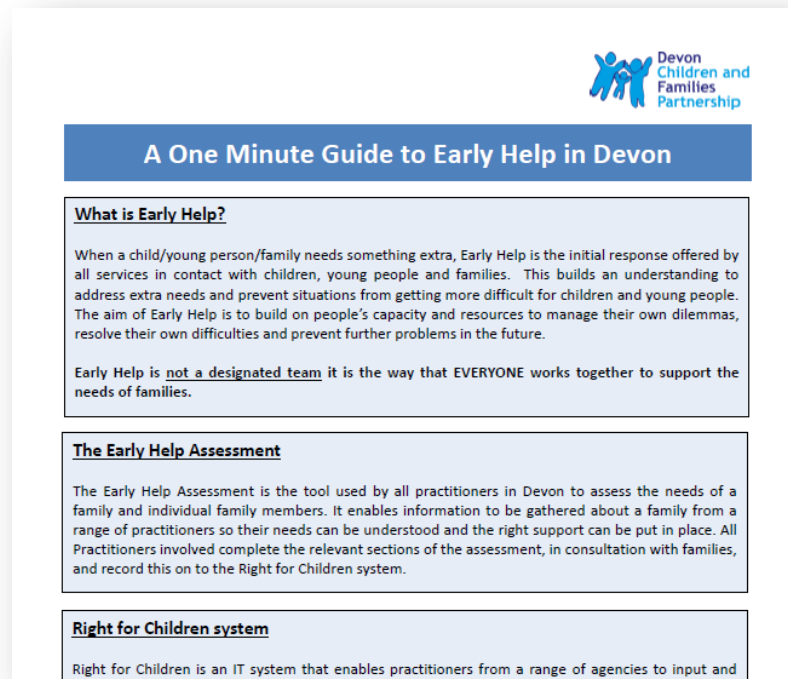
# Early Help

- When a child/young person/family needs something extra, Early Help is the initial response offered by all services in contact with children, young people and families.
- Early Help is not a designated team it is the way that **EVERYONE** works together to support the needs of families. It's good practice, not a process, a service or a team.
- It is what practitioners are already doing – supporting families when need emerges.

# Early Help



- [Early Help Leaflet](#)
- [A One Minute Guide to Early Help in Devon](#)



## **What is Early Help?**

When a child/young person/family needs something extra, Early Help is the initial response offered by all services in contact with children, young people and families. This builds an understanding to address extra needs and prevent situations from getting more difficult for children and young people. The aim of Early Help is to build on people's capacity and resources to manage their own dilemmas, resolve their own difficulties and prevent further problems in the future.

Early Help is not a designated team it is the way that EVERYONE works together to support the needs of families.

## **The Early Help Assessment**

The Early Help Assessment is the tool used by all practitioners in Devon to assess the needs of a family and individual family members. It enables information to be gathered about a family from a range of practitioners so their needs can be understood and the right support can be put in place. All Practitioners involved complete the relevant sections of the assessment, in consultation with families, and record this on to the Right for Children system.

## **Right for Children system**

Right for Children is an IT system that enables practitioners from a range of agencies to input and

# Early Help

- Early Help Assessment (previously know as Devon Assessment Framework (DAF));
- Right for Children IT System;
- Early Help Support Staff;
- Early Help Practitioner Forums;
- Early Help Triage & Request for Additional Service tool;
- Children and Families Partnership Locality Meetings.

# Right for Children (RfC)?

- Right for Children is an IT system that enables practitioners from a range of agencies to input and share information about the families they are working with, with the families consent
- It's multi-agency, with a wide range of practitioners using it every day in a number of different ways
- Used at an early help level of intervention
- Replaced Holistix from March 2017 Supports secure information sharing between agencies
- Is used by childrens social work to 'step down' families into early help support

# Governance Arrangements

- Families consent is paramount
- Implementation and use of RfC is reviewed by the Devon Children and Families Partnership (including locality partnerships)
- Strategic level - All agencies are being signed up through a Working Practice Agreement (for the sharing of information to support Early Help Provision)
- Practitioner Level – System ‘Pop Up’ with Right For Children Terms and Conditions

# How to get involved

- Signing up to access to RfC is easy and requires you to email you details to [business.rightforchildrensecure-mailbox@devon.gcsx.gov.uk](mailto:business.rightforchildrensecure-mailbox@devon.gcsx.gov.uk)
- Awareness sessions operating in every locality with dates available throughout 2018
- Training is not necessary, but awareness sessions are being held for practitioners to gain further information
- Dedicated RfC Training site which enables you to learn at your pace
- Guidance and FAQ available at DSCB website – [www.devonchildrenandfamiliespartnership.org.uk/workers-volunteers/early-help/](http://www.devonchildrenandfamiliespartnership.org.uk/workers-volunteers/early-help/)

# Early Help; A Way of Working



[Early Help consent form](#)  
can be downloaded  
from DSCB Website

If you need targeted  
early help support,  
complete a [Request for  
Additional Service](#)

Improved  
Outcomes 😊

Seek Consent from the  
Family

Start Early Help Assessment  
on “Right for Children”

Team Around the Family  
Meeting

Plan & Review

If you need access to  
Right for Children, email  
[rightforchildren@devon  
.gov.uk](mailto:rightforchildren@devon.gov.uk)

Staff in every  
locality to  
enable  
everyone to  
offer early help



# Need More Help?

- One stop email for all your RfC questions/queries – [rightforchildren@devon.gov.uk](mailto:rightforchildren@devon.gov.uk)
- Locality Officers/Operations Managers for Early Help can provide further help
- System has been developed/refined on feedback from practitioners and we are still listening/learning
- Check out the [DCFP Website for regular Early Help](#) updates and further resources !!!

More Early Help Information can  
be accessed at

[www.devonchildrenandfamiliespartnership.org.uk](http://www.devonchildrenandfamiliespartnership.org.uk)

**Thank You**