

What do I have to do?

Help us to help you, the Early Help Approach is entirely voluntary, but relies on everyone doing what has been agreed. For this to work well, you should try to keep appointments that are made for you and be open and honest about your situation.

Keep in touch with your lead worker, ask them any questions you may have and tell them about any changes in your situation.

Who will see my information?

As a rule the information you provide will only be shared with people with your consent. These will be services you have agreed can help you. There are, through, be certain times when people working with you may need to share information.

For example:

- If you or someone else may be at risk of harm
- To prevent a crime.

Where possible, this would be discussed with you before hand

What are the benefits?

- A joined up approach to helping you and your family.
- An assessment that can be shared with all services, meaning you don't have to keep giving the same information to everyone you meet
- A lead worker, keeping you informed at each step of the way and able to answer any questions you might have
- It's all about you and your family.

If you are interested in finding out more, you can speak with a professional already supporting you or contact the Early Help Co-ordinator:

earlyhelp@gov.je

Tel: 01534 444 516

Information for Children and Young People. Early Help Approach

You and Your Family,
Our Focus

What is the Early Help Approach?

The Early Help Approach is a way of bringing together services to make sure children and young people get the right help and support, at the right time. If you are a child or young person this means having the opportunity to chat with someone who works with you, to talk about what is going well in your life and if there is any extra support you might need. This is recorded on a form and you will get a copy. You will only need to tell your story once, rather than to a lot of people

Who gets involved?

You are at the centre of the process, but there are others who will be involved, Your parents/carers usually are and anyone working with children and families can be involved in the Early help Approach. It could be a youth worker, counsellor, a parenting worker or anyone else working with you.

What happens next?

1. The **Early Help Assessment** will be completed with a professional you know. A lot of young people and their families feel this is a great chance to tell their story and really be listened to

2. After this is complete a **team around the child and family** meeting will be arranged if needed. This is often the team already supporting you, but there may be some new faces who are able to offer further support.

3. During the meeting a **team around the child and family plan** is put together. This includes the support that is being offered and tells you who is going to do what and when. A **lead worker** will also be agreed.

4. **Team around the child and family review** meetings will usually take place in 4 weeks after the first meeting. These meetings make sure the support being offered is working and address any problems. It may be further actions are added to the plan. The Early Help Assessment is a working document and updates can be made at any time.

What is the “team around the child and family meeting”?

These meetings put you at the centre of discussions and decisions. They are a way to bring together all the professionals involved in supporting you and your family.

What is a Lead Worker?

The lead worker is normally someone you already know. They take on the role of coordinating the support being offered. This helps stop professionals repeating work that has already been done or doing the same work as someone else.

The lead worker will ensure you are able to have your say at every stage and will act as a single point of contact for you. It can be hard to remember everyone if there are lots of people supporting you and the lead worker can help with this.

You will have a say on who the lead worker is