

Early Help Assessment Pathway



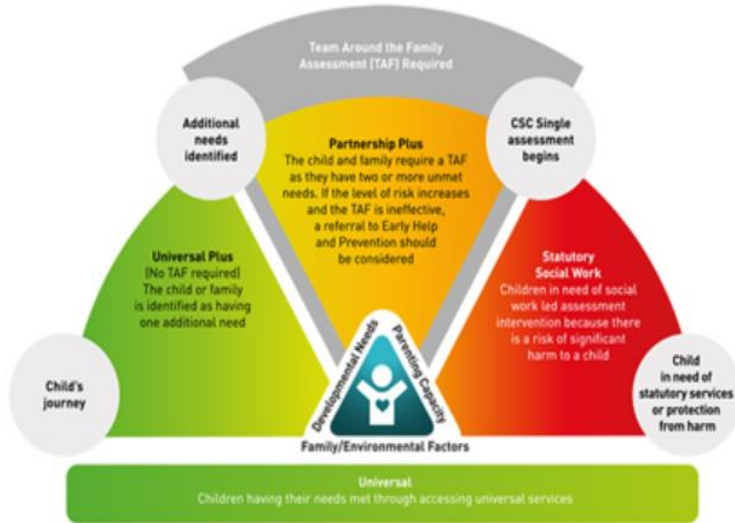
Many agencies, professionals, parents, carers, family members and volunteers are involved with providing support to children and young people at Hayfield Cross C of E School. By collectively working together we can make improvements and a real difference to the outcomes of the children who attend our school.

This is a guide to help parents and carers to understand what an EHA is and help everyone to work together to identify the best support for an individual child and their family or carers across the spectrum of need.

An EHA is an Early Help Assessment. It is a system that is used by a range of services to help to outline what challenges a child or family have and how, together, these challenges can be resolved. An EHA is a support tool and is used when 'Universal' and 'Universal Plus' support has not had enough to impact change for the child or family.

The need for an EHA will be assessed by the school. We will take into account both the child's view and the parent's view. The assessment will also consider the opinions and advice from outside agencies, as the most effective EHAs work when all agencies work together (for example the school nurse). If other agencies are not in attendance, then an EHA may not be the most suitable structure of support, this will be discussed with the families.

If an EHA is not the appropriate pathway, as assessed by the school, families are encouraged to make contact with Mrs Bonar (Home School Support Worker) who together with the Inclusion Manager and Class Teacher, will work with the family to put steps in place to make positive changes. This may include contacting other agencies to gain their advices about support services and resources that are available to the child and family.



Once an EHA has been discussed with the family and the support from other agencies has been gained, the EHA key worker will sit with the family and complete an EHA assessment form. This will then be sent off to the EHA Coordination team at NCC for consideration.

If the assessment is accepted, then a meeting with the family, school and other agencies will be planned- this is called a TAF (**T**eam around the family).

In the TAF meetings, the challenges will be discussed openly and an action plan will be drawn up which gives focus to the meeting. Each person is responsible for ensuring their tasks are completed and will report back in the next TAF meeting.

As the TAF moves forward, it will be decided how successful the current support is. If there are positive changes, then the EHA process will be reviewed and closed. In some cases, the EHA support or 'Partnership Plus' support is not sufficient in making enough change and it will be discussed if further support from a 'Statutory Social Worker' would be beneficial.

How do we assess the need for an EHA?

An EHA is appropriate in supporting children and families who are having challenges in at least two or more of these areas.

An EHA is appropriate when 'Universal' and 'Universal Plus' support has not been met with the support of the Home School Support Worker or other agencies.

An EHA is appropriate when a range of agencies are able to work together to support the family. Where this does not happen or cannot be arranged and EHA will not be completed.

