How are children referred to Early Support?

**Children (birth to 5 years)**

Enfield Early Support Service can offer the full service of a designated Keyworker to families with babies and young children with complex health, disabilities and palliative care needs.

Parents who have concerns about their child should contact us and one of the team will be pleased to advise you

- Professionals are asked to complete an Early Help From (EHF)
- Referrals will be discussed at the Early Support Resource Allocation Panel (ESRAP) which is a multi-agency group made up of Joint Service representatives from Health, Education and Social Care, which meets every fortnight

**Children/Young People (up to aged 25)**

In exceptional circumstances e.g. Family bereavement or crisis, a designated keyworker may be appropriate to offer some short-term family support. The Keyworker will work alongside the other professionals within the team offering support and guidance to the child/young person and their family.

- Referrals will only be accepted by a professional working closely with the family and will be discussed at the multi-agency Specialist Panel which meets fortnightly.

Referrals should be sent by post to: ESRAP, Cheviots Children’s Centre, 31 Cheviots Close, Enfield, Middlesex EN1 3UZ or by email to: cheviots@enfield.gov.uk

**Early Intervention Support Service**

Enfield has a Joint Service for Disabled Children, which consists of Education, Social Care, Health and the Voluntary Sector. These services work together to support families of children with special needs and disabilities.

The Early Intervention Support Service (EISS) represents education within the Joint Service for Disabled Children (JSDC) and provides:

- Pre School Support: A home visiting teaching service
- Early Support: A keyworking service for families of children with complex needs
- Foundation Stage Support Team: Support for young children with special needs and disabilities with their transition into school.

All children have a right to the best possible start in life. Where children have special needs and disabilities, it is important that these are identified at an early stage and that identification leads directly to effective early intervention and support for families and children
What is an Early Support Service?

The principle purpose of Early Support is to deliver family focused services to parents of children with disabilities and or complex health needs from birth to five as soon as the family is identified as needing additional help.

Early Support promotes better coordinated services through keyworking, ensuring initial and early joint assessment of need, coordination of multi-agency support, and improved information and access for families.

What parents say about our service

"I was lost and didn’t know what to do…my Keyworker was there to give me help and advice in finding the support I needed”

"Reliable, friendly, helpful and most of all resourceful”

"My son has received and benefitted from services we wouldn’t have known about otherwise.”

Support & materials available

Early Support provides a range of resources and materials from their website including an app, information, booklets and journals, which are downloadable from the Early Support website:

www.ncb.org.uk/earlysupport

What is a Keyworker?

- A named person who will be the main point of contact for you and other professionals and/or agencies working with you
- They will work in partnership with you to identify and prioritise the needs of your child/young person and your family
- They will provide regular support to you and your family
- They will offer you help to access relevant information/services and make referrals when needed
- They may attend meetings and appointments with you as appropriate
- Support families in accessing Team Around the Family Meetings (TAF) setting up and co-ordinating meetings when appropriate

Who can access this support?

Our service is designed to support children and young people living in Enfield who require involvement from a large number of different agencies due to having complex disabilities, health and learning needs.