

# Early help

Early help is support given to a family when a problem first emerges. It can be provided at any stage in a child or young person's life.

The advantage of early help is that support at an early stage can prevent a harmful situation escalating and requiring more serious intervention later.

UK Statutory guidance highlights the importance of providing early intervention, rather than waiting until a child or family's situation escalates (Department for Education (DfE), 2018; Department of Health, Social Services and Public Safety, 2017).

Early help services can be delivered to parents, children or whole families, but their main focus is to improve outcomes for children. For example:

- Services may help parents who are living in challenging circumstances provide a safe and loving environment for their child.
- If a child is displaying risk-taking behaviour, early help practitioners might work with the child and their parents to find out the reasons for the child's behaviour and put strategies in place to help keep them safe.

The [AfC website](#) has details of a range of local SUPPORT.

Please contact Ms Price, Designated Safeguarding Lead ([yprice@greycourt.org.uk](mailto:yprice@greycourt.org.uk)) or Mrs Mercer, Deputy Designated Safeguarding Lead ([sm Mercer@greycourt.org.uk](mailto:sm Mercer@greycourt.org.uk)) if you require any further information or support.

If you are concerned about a child, please contact [Single Point of Access](#)