
Early Help for Children and Families
Windmill Hill School
Early Help Offer



Safeguarding Briefing

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What is Early Help?

Early Help means providing support as soon as a problem appears, to stop it from getting worse. This could be at any point in a child's life, from birth to the teenage years.



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- Anyone can provide early help – you don't need to be an expert professional.
 - Early help is not about passing the issue on to an expert, but thinking about what is the best support you can offer.

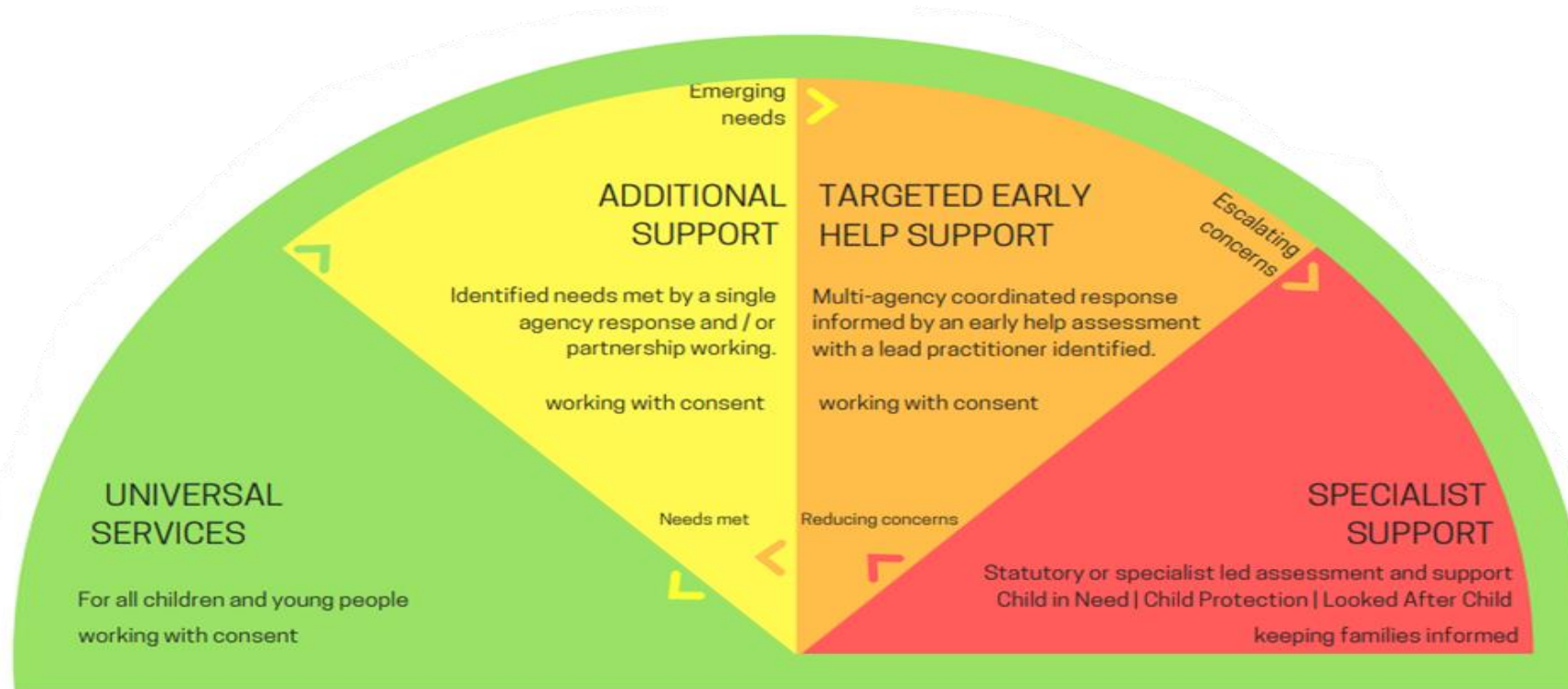


An effective support includes:

- Listening and keeping an eye out
- Working with other people who could help
- Finding out about specialist agencies who could help
- Filling out an Early Help Assessment
- Contacting Children's Social Care if the problem is more serious



The diagram below shows the range of needs at different levels. We use this graduated approach to make sure we provide the best support for different families' individual situations.



In **Keeping Children Safe in Education 2023** it makes it clear that **ALL** staff should be aware of their local early help process and understand their role in it.

Any child may benefit from early help, but all school and college staff should be particularly alert to the potential need for early help for a child who:



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- Is disabled and has specific additional needs;
 - Has special educational needs (whether or not they have a statutory education, health care plan);
 - Is a young carer;
 - Is showing signs of being drawn in to anti-social or criminal behaviour, including gang involvement and association with organised crime groups;
 - Is frequently missing/goes missing from care or from home; - Is misusing drugs or alcohol themselves;
 - Is at risk of modern slavery, trafficking or exploitation.
 - Is in a family circumstance present challenges for the child, such as substance abuse, adult mental health problems or domestic abuse;
 - Has returned home to their family from care;
 - Is showing early signs of abuse and/or neglect;
 - Is at risk of being radicalised or exploited;
 - Is a privately fostered child

