

Early Help Assessment (EHA) + The Three Houses Model

The **Early Help Assessment (EHA)** is the starting point where the family's strengths and concerns are identified. The **Three Houses** help to structure this process clearly, making sure all areas are covered.

- **What is going well:**
 - **In the EHA:** Identifying positive aspects of family life helps to build on strengths and ensure that the family feels supported.
- **What are we worried about:**
 - **In the EHA:** This step allows the family and professionals to openly address any concerns, such as financial struggles, mental health challenges, or housing issues. By recognizing these concerns early, the right support can be provided to prevent escalation.
- **What needs to happen:**
 - **In the EHA:** This part identifies actionable steps to improve the family's situation and prevent problems from worsening. It allows the support worker to suggest solutions, provide guidance, and make connections to resources.

By using the **Three Houses** during the **EHA**, professionals can help families focus on what's working, acknowledge concerns, and create a solid plan to move forward.

2. Family Plan + The Three Houses Model

Once the **Early Help Assessment** is completed, a **Family Plan** is created to focus on the specific goals and actions identified during the assessment. The **Three Houses** concept can also inform the Family Plan to ensure it remains personalized and effective.

- **What is going well:**
 - **In the Family Plan:** This section reinforces the strengths, encouraging the family to build on their existing resources, such as strong relationships, coping strategies, and support networks.
 - **Example:** If the family is close-knit and supportive, they can use these relationships to work through challenges together, which can be highlighted in the plan.
- **What are we worried about:**
 - **In the Family Plan:** This section sets clear, achievable goals that target the worries identified in the EHA. Professionals and the family will work together to define what will help to alleviate these worries.
 - **Example:** If a parent is struggling with employment, the plan might include career advice, training opportunities, or help with managing finances, addressing the root causes of the worry.
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- **What needs to happen:**
 - **In the Family Plan:** This is where action steps are defined, involving practical steps that can lead to change. The family works with professionals to create realistic goals that will be monitored regularly.
 - **Example:** Setting up a regular meeting with a counsellor, arranging childcare support, or creating a financial budget are examples of steps that could be included.

The Three Houses Model in the EHA & Connect Referral Process

- The **Three Houses** is a helpful tool often used during the **Early Help Assessment (EHA)** to support families. It explores three key areas:
 - **What is going well**
 - **What are we worried about**
 - **What needs to happen**

These three key questions guide the support process and help to build a clearer picture of the family's situation. By combining the Three Houses with the EHA and the **Connect Referral**, we create a comprehensive plan of action.

Connect Referral

A **Connect Referral** ensures that a family is referred to the appropriate services that can provide continued support. It links families to other specialized services like healthcare, mental health support, housing assistance, or educational help. This ensures that a family's needs are met holistically by connecting them with resources beyond the immediate support worker.

- **How it's helpful:** A Connect Referral makes sure that no part of the family's needs is overlooked. When one service isn't enough to meet all of the family's challenges, referrals are made to ensure comprehensive support. This improves the family's chances of long-term success, as they're guided to the right resources that they may not have known existed.

Your Early Help Team



BIRMINGHAM CHILDREN & YOUNG PEOPLE'S PARTNERSHIP

Your Early Help Team



yardleyhodgehilleh@barnardos.org.uk
_0121 289 4875
Voluntary Sector Team Manager
Tom Gillam thomas.gillam@barnardos.org.uk
Voluntary Sector Family Support Worker
Laura Bruce, Kheezar Mahmood and Nahar Begum





Fox Hollies Children's Centre
419 Fox Hollies Road, Birmingham, B27 7QA
0121 702 2700
Children's Centre Manager
Caroline Murphy
caroline.murphy@barnardos.org.uk




Early Help Development Workers
(previously known as Community Connectors)
Abigail Hastings abigail.hastings@barnardos.org.uk
Sasha Brown sasha.brown2@barnardos.org.uk



BIRMINGHAM CHILDREN'S TRUST
Early Help & Prevention Team Manager/ Practice Supervisors
Chris Devaney (TM) / Kate Donoher (PS) / Richard Greeves (PS)
Early Help & Prevention Co-ordinator
Tina Hill
ECINS Co-Ordinator
Amina Mushtaq
Early Help Workers
Harry Adams, Jon Rodney, Laura Howard, Linda Ritchie, Shahnaze Abbas, Claire Sorby, Debbie Cole, Anita Bhattacharjee, Clare Walsh, Jo Culley, Leeann Topping, Ruth Clive, Rose Keenan, Kelly Langston, Mani Daroch, Manj Bansil

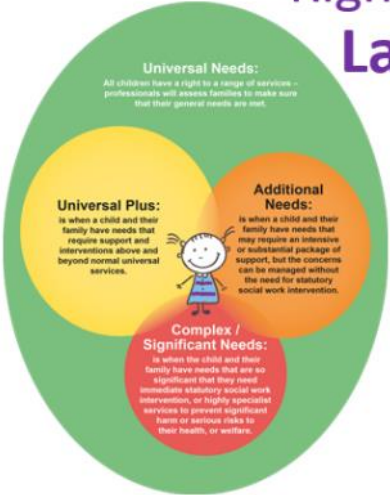


Right Help Right Time



BIRMINGHAM CHILDREN & YOUNG PEOPLE'S PARTNERSHIP

Right Help Right Time Layers Of Need



Universal Needs:
All children have a right to a range of services – professionals will assess families to make sure that their general needs are met.


Universal Plus:
is when a child and their family have needs that require support and interventions above and beyond normal universal services.

Additional Needs:
is when a child and their family have needs that may require an intensive or substantial package of support, but the concerns can be managed without the need for statutory social work intervention.


Complex / Significant Needs:
is when the child and their family have needs that are so significant that they need immediate statutory social work intervention, or highly specialist services to prevent significant harm or serious risks to their health, or welfare.

Using the **RHRT** model to determine the layer of need as being:

- Universal Needs**
- Universal Plus**
- Additional Needs**
- Complex/Significant Needs**



Right Help, Right Time
Delivering effective support for children and families in Birmingham
Guidance for Practitioners
Version 1 | October 2019





Resources



Birmingham's Local Offer [website](#)

Help, advice and information about the services available for all families, including families with a child or young person with additional needs (SEND)

- **The Waiting Room [website](#)**
Alternative approach to taking control of our own health and well-being. It is a virtual bridge across "The Information Chasm" that connects support services to the recipient almost instantly.
- **Route To Wellbeing [website](#)**
Local voluntary and community health and care services and activities that promote good health and wellbeing.
- **NHS [website](#)**
Complete guide to conditions, symptoms, treatments and medicines, including what to do and when to get help.
- **Impact West Midlands [website](#)**
Impact Pathways is a 'map' of provision designed to help public and professionals who live and work in the West Midlands access support they might need.

