

EARLY HELP AT WRAY COMMON

What is Early Help?

Early Help means providing support as soon as a problem emerges, at any point in a child's life. (Working together to safeguard children, July 2018). Early Help is more effective in promoting the welfare of children than reacting later.

Early Help can also prevent further problems arising; for example, if it is provided as part of a support plan where a child has returned home to their family from care, or in families where there are emerging parental mental health issues or drug and alcohol issues. (Working Together 2018).

Effective Early Help relies upon local organisations and agencies working together to:

- identify children and families who would benefit from early help
- undertake an assessment of the need for early help
- provide targeted early help services to address the assessed needs of a child and their family which focuses on activity to improve the outcomes for the child

What we do at Wray Common

At Wray Common our Early Help Offer identifies the need to provide help for children and families as soon as problems start to emerge or when there is a strong likelihood that problems will emerge in the future. The aim of Early Help is to work with children and families, with a range of local agencies and organisations, in a coordinated way to provide the support they need, when they need it.

Early Help at Wray Common has a clear focus on being proactive in identifying early signs of difficulties, being professionally curious and gathering information from all involved with the child to build a bigger picture of what is going well, what we are worried about and what needs to happen next.



If you have any worries or concerns, please contact our Team Around the Child Champion (TACC), Mr Durston

The help we offer our families includes:

Team Around the Child Champion (TACC)
SENDCo
ELSA
SEN Teacher
Specialist Speech and Language TA

Signposting to specialist agencies including:

Parenting Courses
Jigsaw
Educational Psychologist
Clothes and Food Banks
Health Professionals
CAMHS
East Surrey Domestic Abuse Services
Children's Services

Team Around the Family (TAF)

To identify the help some families will find useful, a Team Around the Family (TAF) meeting will be arranged, usually at school.

What happens at a Team Around the Family Meeting?

Team Around the Family (TAF) meetings are led by practitioners in the community who are working with a child or family. Where required, the Early Help Hub can support the TAF process.

The TAF is a way of communicating and agreeing the assessment, intervention and plan. The meeting follows the completion of a holistic assessment with the family and is a way of communicating issues and agreeing the next steps of the family action plan. It brings together the family and those identified agencies who are working with the child, young person or family. The multi-agency meeting provides an opportunity to explore creative options, identify overlaps or gaps in provision and develop good working relationships with people from other agencies. It also provides the opportunity to agree a different lead professional if necessary.

- to act as a co-ordinating single point of contact for the family
- to lead a 'single offer' of local co-ordinated services to families
- to co-ordinate the delivery of an agreed family action plan and monitor and review it until outcomes are met