

Early Years Support pathway

A. Identification

Criteria for Early Years Support

1. Aged 0-5 years
2. Requests for babies/children who have or may have an SEND
3. Learning/development and or physical/medical needs are identified
4. One or more specialist services are required
5. Children who are looked after
6. Children who live in a different local authority but attend an East Riding early years setting

If a child does not meet criteria for Early Years Support

1. Signpost referrer to universal services
2. Identify a lead professional
3. Ongoing support needs maybe addressed through completing an Early Help Assessment (EHA)
4. To contact Early Years Support team if needs change to make a new request

Making a request

Parent/carer with support from a professional to complete a request for Early Years Support. The request can be completed online via the Early Years Support local offer website and searching for Early Years Support www.eastridinglocaloffer.org.uk

*Information booklet available via the East Riding local offer to guide referrers when making a request.



B. Decision making

Early Years Support team meeting

The Early Years Support team is made up of a group of professionals from health, education and care services who meet fortnightly.

The team will discuss and consider the information submitted in the request and accompanying information. The discussion will usually take place within four weeks of the completed request being submitted. The Early Years Support team may recommend further services to help now or in the future.



C. Actions

1. Support required from one or more specialist service e.g Portage.
2. Referrals to other services may be made following the team discussion and agreement from parent/carers.
3. The need for a next steps discussion will be agreed. A member of the Early Years Support team will be identified to facilitate and coordinate the initial discussion with parents/carers and the person who made the request.
4. Monitor and review progress – a referral to a service maybe recommended and then progress reviewed by the Early Years Support team at a later date e.g child to participate in a block of Talktime and review at Early Years Support with final Talktime assessment.

Next steps discussion – initial date set between parents/carers and the person who made the request only. The discussion enables parents to share any concerns they may have, ask any questions about the services recommended by the team and plan the next steps together. This discussion is informal and not all of the services recommended to support the family will be invited. Notes from the discussion will be made and shared with the services that are to begin supporting with the family.

Early Years Support Family Meetings - Following the initial next steps discussion, further family meetings will be arranged as and when needed. These meetings will bring together all those involved with providing support to the child and family to jointly review support given and plan the next steps. These will then be formulated into a support plan. The support plan is designed to be flexible and reviewed as and when needed – there are no set timescales. Family meetings will need to be arranged to support transition e.g. when a child starts school or an early years setting, and where it is agreed that an assessment for an Education, Health and Care Plan is to be requested.

Lead Professional is responsible for arranging the family meeting, circulating the support plans and any other relevant paperwork.

The final support plan should be agreed with the parents/carers before distributing copies to those services the family would like to share the plan with.

A copy of the support plan with the date, time and venue of the next family meeting, should be submitted to the Early Support Coordinator at the above address.

The Lead Professional must inform Early Years Support of the following:

- A proposed change to the Lead Professional
- When a child is due to start an Early Years setting or school
- When a child is due to move out of the authority
- Where it has been agreed that a request for an EHC plan is to be made

All changes should be e -mailed to: cyst@eastriding.gov.uk

Transition into school – at the beginning of the spring term someone from the Early Years Support Team will contact the lead professional to discuss transition into school. Area SENCOs support early years settings with all transitions including between rooms within your setting, transitions to other settings and into school.