

Shropshire Early Help vision: ‘A child-centred and coordinated approach to prevention and early assistance where the voice of the child is heard and their experience of life is understood by all professionals working with them’

The Early Help vision for children and families sits within the wider council approach to offer advice support and assistance to the people of Shropshire to “help them help themselves” promoting engagement of the community and the voluntary sector to identify and meet the needs of their local community.

Early Help Outcomes

Outcome	How will this be achieved?	Key Outcome Indicators
<p>Children, young people and families feel happier, healthier, safer, more valued, more accepted, more responsible for their actions, more positively engaged in their community and successful in achieving their goals.</p>	<p>Effective direct work with the child/young person and family</p> <p>Ensure the effective assessment, planning and review of the needs of children, parents and families</p> <p>Creative solution-focused and whole family approach</p> <p>Ensure the child’s voice is heard throughout and their experience understood within the context of the family</p> <p>Increase the capacity of parents to provide consistent, safe, caring and effective parenting to meet the needs of their children</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ % of children that improved overall across Webstar outcomes ○ % of parents that improved overall across Webstar outcomes ○ % of children that feel happy (score of 5 or above for these outcomes at closure) ○ % of children that feel healthy (score of 5 or above for this outcomes at closure) ○ % of children that feel safe (score of 5 or above for this outcomes at closure) ○ Effectiveness of Early Help audit (qualitative)

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<p>Families experience a positive family life</p>	<p>Creative solution-focused and whole family approach</p> <p>Ensure the child's voice is heard throughout and their experience understood within the context of the family</p> <p>Identify and meet needs of parents and therefore improve issues impacting on parenting capacity</p> <p>Provide parents with information, guidance, tools, skills, authority and support</p> <p>Increase the capacity of parents to provide consistent, safe, caring and effective parenting to meet the needs of their children</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ % of families with improvement overall across all key indicators of positive family life ○ % of families with improvement overall in their: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Healthy lifestyles ● Relationships ● Learning and development ● Community engagement ● Safeguarding
<p>Prevent the needs of children and young people from escalating to need specialist services (appropriate escalation and de-escalation)</p> <p><i>NB. The outcome in the Shropshire Children's Trust Children, Young People and Families Plan 2014 is: Keeping children safe by preventing children's additional needs increasing in complexity and impacting negatively on their health and development; by preventing lower level risk of harm</i></p>	<p>Increase front line practitioners' skills and confidence in working with children, young people and families early and in the identification and management of risk</p> <p>Thresholds understood by professionals and applied consistently</p> <p>Social work support</p> <p>Children, young people and families have swift,</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Number and % of children with a closed Early Help plan that within 3 months of closure: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ have had a referral to the Initial Contact Team ○ have not had a referral to the Initial Contact Team ○ have had no further Early Help support ○ have had further Early Help support

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<p><i>developing into significant risk of harm</i></p>	<p>appropriate access to the right help the right time</p> <p>Develop an integrated locality support service to provide targeted early help to children and families Build the capacity of parents, carers and communities to provide support and early help to their friends, neighbours and their community <i>(Shropshire Children’s Trust Children, Young People and Families Plan 2014)</i></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Number and % of children open to Early Help that have a referral to the Initial Contact Team (and the outcome of that referral) ○ Number of children referred to the Initial Contact Team that had a referral with an outcome of an assessment under Section 17 that had not had an Early Help intervention within the 12 months previous to the referral ○ % of children that have closed to social care that have de-escalated to Early Help ○ Number of children with a re-referral to social care that had a previous referral with an outcome of NFA-Early Help ○ “Stepping in” audit, “step down” audit and “step up” audit results (qualitative) ○ Practitioner confidence (annual practitioner feedback questionnaire)
<p>Children, young people and families have swift, appropriate access to the right help at the right time</p> <p><i>NB. The outcome in the Shropshire Children’s Trust</i></p>	<p>Single point of coordination</p> <p>Timely, appropriate response to all requests for support</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ % of referrals to Initial Contact Team with an outcome of no further action ○ % of appropriate referrals to CAMHS

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<p><i>Children, Young People and Families Plan 2014 is: Identifying early help at the first signs of problem and in early years providing accessible services to parents and children at the right time</i></p>	<p>Simple, clear pathways</p> <p>Resources targeted at those most in need and effective signposting</p> <p>Child/young person’s journey through services is smooth and well-coordinated</p> <p>Early Help systems and processes have minimum bureaucracy</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Timeliness of response to unassessed need – from identification of unassessed need to Compass Triage decision being made ○ Timeliness of response to unassessed need – from identification of unassessed need to allocation to service ○ Timeliness of response to Early Help Targeted Referrals – from referral to allocation ○ Timeliness of response to requests for consultation ○ “Stepping in” audit, “step down” audit and “step up” audit results (qualitative) ○ Service user feedback ○ Practitioner feedback on accessibility, usability and effectiveness of Early Help systems and processes