

Early Help Offer Update – COVID19 Recovery September 2020

This offer document is to provide clarity of the current Early Help offer which is subject to ongoing recovery planning and may change when necessary as a response to any changes in government guidance.

Centres

At this time **Early Help is not** delivering from Youth or Children and Family Centres, although we have maintained limited access for some of our health and community partners. From 28 September 20 centres will operate the Track and Trace system for all professionals and members of the public entering buildings.

Duty

Our duty line remains open and able to respond to all requests for support from professionals and members of the public. Tel **0330 222 8087 - available Monday to Friday between 9am and 5pm**

The duty line also provides:

- **Information, Advice and Guidance** - Families can also be signposted to the Early Help duty line for Information, Advice and Guidance and the hubs continue to actively support families to take up their Free Entitlement childcare. This is accessible via the Early Help duty line.
- **Crisis Support** – Early Help can provide a same day response to those in crisis with crisis payment and Food Parcels. This is accessible via the Early Help duty line.
- **Healthy Start** - Access to healthy start vitamins for new parents via the Early Help duty line.

Targeted Family Work

Family Support Worker led Early Help Plans to deliver a targeted intervention through the co-ordination of a multiagency team and plan. This is direct whole family working focused on improving outcomes for children in need of help on a range of issues including children with multiple complex needs.

Children will often be on the cusp of requiring social care intervention or repeatedly come to the attention of Social Care or the Police. They may have long-term entrenched issues that require a longer duration of intervention.

Family support work continues to be delivered with a mix of face to face and virtual visits and can be accessed via the duty line.

Enabling Families

Short focused intervention where the parent/carers can access between one and five sessions with a Family Support Worker. Parents/carers must be motivated to identify and work towards their chosen goals exploring what is working well and what the impact of current worries has on the child/children. Current delivery of this offer is virtual, access via duty.

Domestic Abuse

The Domestic Abuse and Sexual Violence Service continues to provide support to high risk clients in West Sussex who are experiencing abuse. Working with both adult only and adults with children and young people over 13 years who are referred directly. The Independent Sexual Violence advisors work with young people 13 years and up to provide on long term support to victims of sexual assault outside of intimate relationships. Current delivery method is a mix of face to face and virtual.

www.westsussex.gov.uk/domesticabuse

Youth Emotional Support (YES)

YES supports young people experiencing mental and emotional health issues that include anxiety, low mood, suicidal ideation and plans, significant harming behaviour, OCD behaviours and issues around eating. Interventions are based upon the goals the young person has identified and focus on resourcing, equipping and empowering the young person. The service can be accessed by self-referral online and is currently delivered through a mix of face to face and virtual contact as well as an online group offer and access to targeted resource packs. www.westsussex.gov.uk/YES

Young Carers

The Young Carers (Family) Service continues to provide a whole family approach to supporting Young Carers (0-17) who have a caring role due to a long-term health issue or disability in their family. Online group activities are currently being developed and will be promoted to Young Carers registered with our service later in the autumn term. Transition groups, “My Futures” to support young carers who are approaching adulthood, will continue to run online.

For further information - check the [Young Carers Website](#)
To access our service - email youngcarers@westsussex.gov.uk

Early Years and Childcare

The Early Years and Childcare Team continue to provide support to early years and childcare providers and almost all provision is open. Current delivery remains virtual and visits will only take place if considered essential, for example, a safeguarding issue or SEND relating to an individual child. These must be fully risk assessed and have agreement of Team Managers.

<https://www.westsussex.gov.uk/business-and-consumers/information-for-childcare-providers/>

Family Information Service

Providing up to date information to all families on activities, services and childcare.

Contact 01243 777807 or family.info.service@westsussex.gov.uk or www.westsussex.gov.uk/fis

Your Space

Online advice and information for young people relating to health, education, jobs and things to do.

www.yourspacewestsussex.co.uk

Family Assist

Online advice and information on pregnancy and the early stages of a child's life.

www.westsussex.gov.uk/familyassist