



Signs of Safety

There is nothing more important than the safety and wellbeing of our children and young people. Our approach to supporting people who need help is based on something called Signs of Safety.

Signs of Safety is a process that allows us to work with families to develop a safety plan to make sure a child is safe. A safety plan may change over time as families change. Anyone who is important to the child or the family can be included in the plan.

If you would like to know more about Signs of Safety, visit: www.wakefield.gov.uk/signsofsafety



What some families have said about getting early help

My worker gets me. She can make me laugh when I don't want to laugh

My worker has helped me build confidence and I don't normally like new people but I like him
(Child's view)

My son is a lot happier and is asking for help now. Things were not happening with school but now a worker has come on board things are happening

They actually listen and don't try and tell me what to do. She made me feel like I am a good parent

How can you find out more?

Talk to someone who is currently involved or working with you or your family.

This could be a health visitor, school or any other kind of worker. You can also visit www.wakefield.gov.uk/earlyhelp

Your local Early Help hub contact details

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C H I L D R E N
F I R S T

H U B

SUPPORTING YOU WITH
FAMILY LIFE

Are you or a family member experiencing any of the following:

- School attendance problems
- Have a child who needs help
- Domestic Abuse
- Worklessness and debt problems
- Health problems
- Crime and Anti-social behaviour problems

If you are having issues with any of the above, or any other similar problems, getting support as soon as possible could be really important.



What is Early Help?

Early Help in Wakefield works closely with families to provide the right level of support at the right time.

Getting help early prevents problems from growing or getting out of hand.

Who will work with us?

This approach will bring together different professional groups who will be able to offer a whole range of support to you.

For example, this may include:

- Schools/Nurseries
- Health Visitors
- Housing Professionals
- Substance Misuse Agencies

How does getting help early work?

First Step - talking with you

A support worker will ask about any problems you're having and what support you think might help. They will complete an 'Early Help Assessment' with you which will show what other help may be needed. The information from this assessment will be kept on file, meaning you won't have to repeat your story to lots of different professionals.

Second Step - the plan

You will meet with your support worker and any other professional who may be able to offer help, in order to discuss what kind of support is available to you. This will then be agreed in a plan between you and your support worker, which will show who is going to do what and when.

Third Step - the review

After an agreed time, everyone will come back together to see how things are going and if any changes are needed. This will continue as long as required to ensure the plan is always suitable to you and your family.

Support at every step

You will never be alone during this process. Someone will be identified as being your 'Lead Professional'.

Your Lead will be your main contact for any problems or questions you have and will always keep you informed. You will be fully involved every step of the way.

Getting the best results

In order to ensure the best results we encourage you to:

- Ask questions and get involved
- Be as open and honest as possible
- Keep agreed appointments where possible
- Let us know if you don't understand or if you are unhappy with anything.

You can request help from a Children First Hub, or this may be suggested to you by someone you are in contact with - such as a health visitor or teacher.