





# In the Spotlight...

Early Help

# In this Spotlight...

The focus of this edition of the Children's MARS Spotlight is early help

The Early Help Strategic Leads Group has led on the redesign of the early help assessment and plan which was initiated following consultation across the partnership. The new forms have been co-produced with children and families and multi-agencies.

The redesigned assessment and plan have been developed aiming to be:

- Whole family in scope, emphasising the child's voice and wider family
- Family-led, working in partnership with family rights at the core
- Trauma-informed
- Aligned with the One Family Approach where practitioners take a relationship and strengths-based, positive, solutions-focussed approach
- Easier to understand and undertake, digitally enabled with minimal administrative burden
- In line with North Lincolnshire practice incorporating elements of the Risk Analysis
   Framework
- In line with the Supporting Families Outcomes Framework

In this edition of the Spotlight you can, find information about...

- Local developments
- Upcoming training
- Contacts

### Local developments

The new Early Help Assessment and Review Form are available to view and download from our website. Completion guidance for the Early Help Assessment Form, which provides practitioners with advice on what to include, has been made available alongside the forms

See Early Help Forms

The online early help system has been redesigned to allow practitioners to complete the early help assessment form electronically. The system allows staff to record early help plan and reviews, open and close formal periods of early help and record outcomes.

The online system can be accessed via the <u>link on the</u> Children's MARS website

New guidance for practitioners
has been developed which
aims to support those
undertaking early help
assessments and reviews with
children and families.
See <u>Children's MARS Early Help</u>
Guidance

The Early Help page of the Children's MARS website has been updated along with a number of existing documents, such as the Early Help Assessment leaflet for Children and Families. Key information shared at Early Help Practice Forums is now available to view and download

See Early Help page on the Children's MARS website

Lead Professional guidance has been produced to advise staff on which agency would be most appropriate to lead on an early help plan and their responsibilities.

See The Role of the Lead

**Professional Guidance** 

## **Education** and **Training**

#### **Early Help – Practice and Process**

This training aims to increase practitioners' understanding of early help and enhance skills in assessing need using the new Early Help Assessment. It is aimed at practitioners who will be supporting families as part of an early help plan.

#### You will learn:

- The purpose and process Why and how we help families using early help
- The local context Understanding levels of intervention and support
- Practical skills and process how to complete a good quality Early Help Assessment and effective planning with families

#### Upcoming dates:

- 15 Nov 2022, 9am to 12.30pm The Baths Hall
- 23 Nov 2022, 9am to 12.30pm The Baths Hall
- 5 Dec 2022, 1pm to 4pm The Wortley House Hotel
- 11 Jan 2023, 9am to 12pm The Wortley House Hotel

To book, email mars@northlincs.gov.uk

#### **Early Help Awareness eWorkbook**

This eWorkbook provides all staff with a basic awareness of early help practice and process.

It provides information about what early help is and why we undertake early help.

The eWorkbook is available to download from the Children's MARS website.

#### **Early Help Practice Forums**

These termly forums provide an opportunity for practitioners to meet with schools, family support and other local authority staff to share best practice, seek solutions around current early help plans and receive peer support.

Upcoming dates and papers from previous forums are available on the <u>early help page of the</u> Children's MARS website.

### **Contacts**

The Children's MARS Board produces quarterly news updates which provide information on the work of the Board and includes updates on local and national guidance. We also promote new education and training opportunities, resources for professionals and volunteers, support for children and families and information relating to events and conferences through our communications email list.

If you wish to subscribe for Children's MARS communications emails, please complete the <u>communications sign up form</u>.

A collection of our previous news updates can also be found on the <u>communications</u> <u>page.</u>

The Children's MARS Board regularly post updates via the partnership social media pages Safe North Lincs. Support and advice for children and families can be found on our Facebook and Twitter pages.

Follow us on Facebook <u>Safe North Lincs</u> or Twitter <u>@SafeNorthLincs</u>









