

What happens after the Assessment?

Once the **assessment** is done we will have a clear understanding about your real and pressing needs and those of your child/ren, how these have arisen and the impact that these are having on you and their lives.

This understanding will lead to an **Additional Needs Plan** which will be agreed by you, the children and those who have agreed that the support should be provided. The difference you and we want to make will also be agreed.

Help and support will then be provided by those people/organisations named with doing so as part of the plan

A **review** will be held within a term to see whether or not the support is working and whether the hoped-for changes have happened, whether further help is needed or if the support can be stopped.



Giving every child the best possible opportunities in life

Early Help and Support

for

Children with Additional Needs

*One Child, One Team,
One Support Plan*

*Information for
Parents/Carers*



Isle of Man
Government
Reilfy Ellan Vannin

What is Early Help and Support?

Early Help and Support is the name of the service that schools and other professionals can provide for you and your family when you first notice that things are going a little bit wrong and you are finding it tough.

We bring together a group of staff who have skills, knowledge and specialisms that might help your child and the family overcome any difficulties you are experiencing in school, at home or in the community. They become a **team around the family**.

We know that if one person in the family has a problem, it can also affect other brothers and sisters, so we like to work with the whole family.

We use a family centred approach that builds on the things that you are already doing well. We involve children and adults from start to finish in the child's journey to becoming successful and happy.



When can I ask for an Assessment?

You can ask your school head teacher, health visitor (or another professional) to request an assessment, if you are worried about your child maybe having:

Difficulty in coping with life at home, in school or in the community, and/or if they are struggling to adapt because of a disability, problems with learning, poor health, emotional problems, have caring responsibilities, and/or they have behaviour or anger issues (or other similar things).

Or if you are worried about your child:

Struggling to cope because of your own disability, learning difficulties, mental health, experiencing domestic violence, and/or have difficulties with parenting and you know that these are having an effect on your children.

You will jointly write and agree the request with the school or health visitor and be asked to give **written consent** to share information with those professionals who attend the assessment meeting and for support to be provided. This allows us to make sure we have the most accurate information possible to help you. Your consent will only last as long as we are supporting you and your family. If you want to contact us again, we will need to seek further consent. You can change your mind and withdraw your consent at any time.

What happens in the Assessment?

We start off by hearing your story of what is happening to you and your child/ren. We will try to understand what it is like for you and the family.

We will look at what is going well for you all, so that we can build on these positive areas with you.

We will hear from everyone at the meeting to help build a picture of your needs.

We will listen, talk and think about any risks, and the impact of these on the children and how you deal with those.

We will draw all the learning together to decide and agree about what is happening in your life and the lives of your children.

We will then develop an **Additional Needs Plan** with you.

