



# Family Help Assessment

A guide for young people



## Why are you having a family help assessment?

You or someone you know has asked for help or is worried about you and your family.

An assessment of your situation will help us to agree what help and support you and your family might need and who can provide it.

## What is a family help assessment?

We need to know more about you and your family. A family help lead practitioner will gather information about your situation with help from you, your family and other services. We call this an assessment.

## What is a family help lead practitioner?

A family help lead practitioner is someone who will work with you and your family. They will complete the assessment and will often be the main contact for you with support moving forward. They could be from a range of services including your school, health services or from the council like a social worker or family practitioner.



## How long will it take?

A family help assessment ends when there is enough information to make a decision about what support may be needed. The length of the assessment will be agreed by the lead practitioner, with their manager. We aim to complete all assessments within ten working days. In exceptional circumstances it may take a little longer and your family help lead practitioner will explain any reasons for this.

## What will happen?

Your family help lead practitioner will talk with you and members of your family to help them to complete the assessment.

Information gathered will be written down and some forms will be filled in. These forms record details about you, including your health, education, development and home life. The lead practitioner will talk with you about the information they have gathered, and they will listen to what you have to say about it.



## Who will be able to see the information about me?

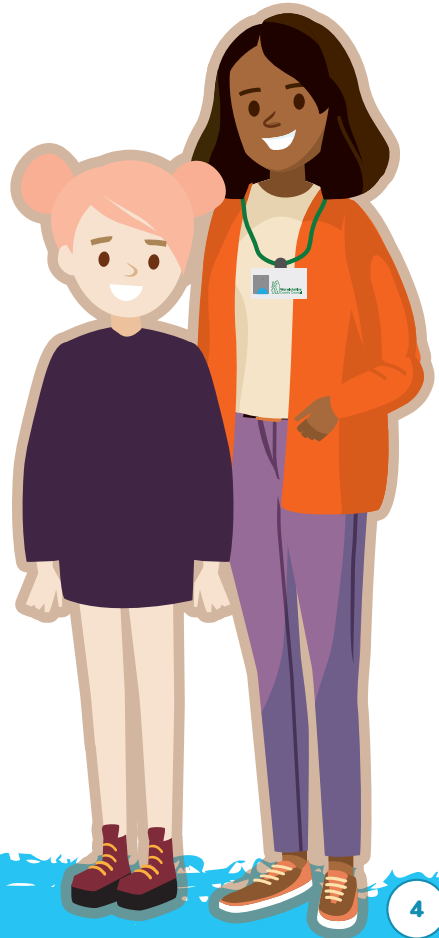
Your safety is a priority. If information comes to light where the family help lead practitioner is seriously concerned for your welfare, they will have to tell someone. You will be told what to expect in this situation.

Normally, anything you discuss with your family help lead practitioner will be held in confidence among those needing to know. If there is a need to discuss this information with anyone else, you will be asked if this is okay. You may be asked to sign a consent form. Your family help lead practitioner will discuss this with you.

If you don't agree with what is written in the assessment when it is finished, you will be able to record this, or get help to record this, on the form.

## How can you help us?

It is important that you are involved in your assessment. Helping the family help lead practitioner to complete the assessment will help them to see what strengths you and your family have, as well as any areas of difficulty.



## What can you expect of us?

We will listen carefully to what you have to say, offer advice and support you to deal with the difficulties you and your family may be having.

We will keep you up to date about what we are doing and thinking during the assessment and afterwards.

With a little help most families can sort out their own difficulties and our aim is to help you and your family do that.

## What will happen next?

After the family help assessment is completed, a plan of action will be agreed. A copy of the assessment and the plan will be given to you. If you need it translated into another language this can be arranged.

We will try our best to offer any services you need as soon as we can.



## Who can you speak to?

If you need to speak to anyone about what is happening to you, you can speak to:

- Your parents or carers
- A teacher at school or college, or other adult you trust
- Your family help lead practitioner.....  
on telephone number.....
- The Children's Services Emergency Duty Team  
**01926 886922** between 5.30pm and 8.00am
- Childline 24-hour service **0800 1111**
- NSPCC Child Protection Line **0800 800 5000**

### Remember:

- You should be involved in all aspects of your assessment.
- It is important that you give your views.
- You have a right to be listened to.
- You should not be afraid to ask if you are unsure about something.
- You will be given a copy of your assessment and agreed action plan.



## Further information

If you require further information about our services, any member of staff will be pleased to help you, or you can contact the customer relations team at:

Tel. **01926 410410**

Email. **[customerrelations@warwickshire.gov.uk](mailto:customerrelations@warwickshire.gov.uk)**

**[www.warwickshire.gov.uk/childrenandfamilies](http://www.warwickshire.gov.uk/childrenandfamilies)**

## Information in other formats

If this information is difficult to understand, we can provide it in another format, for example, in large print. If you require this leaflet in another language, please contact **01926 359177**.



# Warwickshire Family Information Service

Contact us for a wide range of information relating to children and young people aged 0-25, including: childcare, money, debt and benefits, housing, SEND, health and wellbeing, and so much more.

[warwickshire.gov.uk/fis](http://warwickshire.gov.uk/fis)

FREEPHONE: 0800 408 1558

Email: [fis@warwickshire.gov.uk](mailto:fis@warwickshire.gov.uk)

