

## The Steering Group

A steering group has been set up with representation from people from Health, Education, Social Care as well as parents and representatives from the voluntary sector.

The Early Support Manager is:

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If you want to discuss Early Support, to make any comments or complaint about any aspect of Early Support please feel free to contact Jane Marsh or Jacque Caine, Early Support Administrative Support, Tel: 01384-812256

**DUDLEY EARLY SUPPORT**

## INFORMATION LEAFLET ON DUDLEY EARLY SUPPORT FOR YOUNG CHILDREN AND THEIR FAMILIES

# Early Support

Helping every child succeed



**DUDLEY EARLY SUPPORT**

## **Your family have been asked to be part of Early Support.**

This leaflet aims to give you the background information about Early Support

### **Who is Early Support for?**

It is for families with a child 0-5 who need specialist services from more than two agencies.

### **Why is it needed?**

Because families of children with complex needs say they would like services which are appropriate, responsive, work well together and over which the family has some say.

### **What happens if I say 'NO' to being part of Early Support?**

You and your child will simply continue to receive services as usual at the present time.

### **What happens if I say 'YES' to take part in Early Support?**

- Professionals will meet regularly with you, share information and make one joint plan. This should help you feel part of the decision making process.
- You and your professionals will choose one person to act as your keyworker. This person will be the main point of information about you and your child or young person's situation.
- You will receive a Family file, which will help you keep a record of appointments, professionals write-ups from their visits, current information about your child or young person such as assessments. This should reduce the number of times you need to say things to different people. After planning meetings you will receive the main copy.

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## **What do Key workers do?**

- Assist you to explore how your child or young persons' needs can be met through care co-ordination and offer a listening ear, if and when you need and want it.
- Be the first point of contact for you and other professionals who work with you and your child.
- Have an overview of all the services that are available for you and your child.
- Ensure that you and your child have a family service plan drawn up, which clearly states what will be done by which professionals-and by when.

## **What are the aims of Early Support?**

- To provide better co-ordinated services for parents and professionals working with your family.
- To have a named person as a keyworker, who is the first point of contact, provide advice, support and information for parents and the other professionals working with you.
- To reduce the number of times parents have to 'tell the stories'
- To increase the level of information shared with parents.
- To reduce duplication and identify gaps in services.
- To ensure parents experience informs and improves service delivery.

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