

# A guide to the **Early Help Assessment and Plan (EHAP)** for children, young people, parents, and carers

## What is an EHAP?

- An **Early Help Assessment and Plan (EHAP)** is an **assessment of a family's needs**. The EHAP looks at what is working well, what challenges you might be facing, and creates a plan to put support in place to make the situation better for you and your family.
- An EHAP is a **supportive** and **voluntary** process. With your **consent**, you and your family will meet with professionals you're working with and talk about what is going well, what you're worried about, and what you would like to be different.
- You can ask that an EHAP be started for your family. An EHAP may also be recommended by someone else such as your child's school, your GP, or a worker from Children's Social Care and Preventative Services.

## How can an EHAP help my family and me?

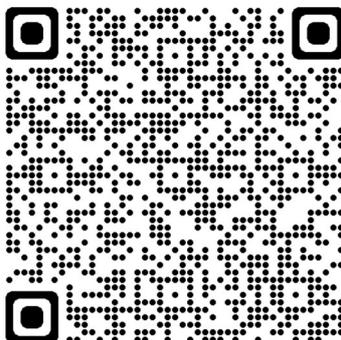
- **Early help** and **prevention** are the most effective ways to help children and young people reach their full potential. With this in mind, an EHAP provides a picture of what is happening for you and your family and gives a clear outline of what support has been tried to help you **make the situation better**.
- An EHAP helps ensure that you and your family **tell your story once** and that information is shared openly between you and professionals.
- An EHAP can provide evidence of what **support** has been tried to improve the situation for you and your family. This can be useful if you need additional help in the future.
- Your family may be eligible for one-time funding of £500 that can be used to put support in place such as counselling or mentoring.

## How does an EHAP work?

- Once you've given your **consent** to an EHAP being started for your family, you'll help decide on the right person to lead your EHAP. This person is called a **Lead Professional** and the Lead Professional will **lead** and **coordinate** your plan. The Lead Professional will record your thoughts on your situation, will gather the child(ren)'s views, parent(s) and/or carer(s) views and will speak with other professionals on your behalf.
- The Lead Professional will work with you and any other professionals supporting your family to decide on a date for a **Team Around the Child (TAC)** or **Team Around the Family (TAF)** meeting. At this meeting, you each will talk about what is working well for your family, what challenges you're experiencing, and you'll put an action plan in place to make positive changes. The actions on your EHAP will be shared between you and the professionals supporting you. At the meeting you will agree a date when the EHAP will be reviewed to see what progress has been made to the agreed actions.
- The Lead Professional will type your EHAP and **share** this with you. When you agree with the information, you will **sign** the EHAP, and copies will be shared with everyone involved with the plan. With your consent, the EHAP will be sent to the Compass team to be uploaded to the main system so the local authority knows who is supporting the child(ren) in our area.
- The EHAP can be open as long as it takes to meet your goals and for the actions to be completed. You can also choose to close your EHAP if you feel this would be best for you and your family.

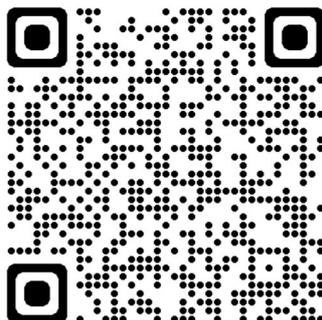
## Where can I find out more about the EHAP?

You can find additional information about the EHAP by following this link [Early help assessment and plan | South Gloucestershire \(southglos.gov.uk\)](#) or by going to find-information-for-adults-children-families.southglos.gov.uk and searching for EHAP. You can also scan this QR code:



## Where can I find more information about Early Help?

You can find additional information about Early Help by following this link [Early help | Safeguarding South Gloucestershire Safeguarding \(southglos.gov.uk\)](#) or by going to sites.southglos.gov.uk/safeguarding/children/i-am-a-parentcarer/early-help. You can also scan this QR code:



## Where can I find information and resources that can help my family?

You can find additional information and resources that might help you and your family by following this link [Find information for adults, children and families | South Gloucestershire \(southglos.gov.uk\)](#) or by going to find-information-for-adults-children-families.southglos.gov.uk. You can also scan this QR code:

