

**Family Help Leads Team
are part of the
Early Help Service within
the London Borough of
Waltham Forest**



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Family Help Leads for Schools Team

The Family Help Leads for Schools (FHLS) team

The Family Help Lead team are a free service who support education settings to strengthen and develop their own Early Help offer by identifying available support and resources to best meet the holistic needs of all children and their families.

Help and Support Referrals

Education settings are guided, to consult with their named Family Help Lead to discuss any family with identified emerging or re-emerging needs, that may progress to a help & support MASH referral.

Training Offer

The Family Help Lead Team offer termly training/sessions (virtual & face 2 face) for professionals. This includes Emerging Needs/Thresholds, Team Around the Family Meetings, Making Robust MASH Referrals and Having Relational/Managing Difficult Conversations. Contact your named Family help Lead for more information.

Briefings

The Family Help Lead Team attend termly DSL Forums to provide staff briefings and updates on the Early Help/Family Hub/Partner offers and how education settings can access and work in partnership with these services.

Schools and Colleges can also request a staff briefing for wider staff groups in their setting.

Team Around the Family (TAF)

The Family Help Lead Team are available to facilitate and chair complex discussions via TAF meetings. Please book a consultation meeting with your allocated Lead to explore if threshold is met for a FHLS to chair a TAF meeting.

Consultation Meetings

Identifying help & support needs as early as possible, is a key preventative strategy that aims to reduce statutory intervention in children & families lives, wherever possible.

In accordance with LBWF Section 11 Audits, Schools & Colleges are guided, to book termly consultation meetings, with the FHLS team, to discuss and agree a plan regarding potential families with emerging/re-emerging needs and any arising specific themes.

Please contact your allocated Family Help Lead to book your consultation meetings.

Termly Cluster Meetings/Events

All education settings are invited to participate in regular face-to-face meetings to network. Partner agencies are also invited to present their updated offer to develop and strengthen collaborative working.

Team Around the Setting

Family Help Leads are able to discuss any arising needs/themes within your setting.

The team will work with the setting to address these needs/themes and identify any services that can support.

Information Sharing

The Family Help Lead team can provide updates and share information on a need-to-know basis to education settings where children are being supported by Early Help or Children's Social Care.