

Analysis and Action Planning

Once you have gathered all the information, you need to look at what the information gathered means for each child.

What is going well for the family and what needs to change?

From this, you will meet with the family and all other professionals involved to agree an action plan of how best to support the family.

The action plan should include actions for everyone, including the family, to complete to improve their situation. Try to keep the number of actions necessary to a minimum so that they are not overwhelming, and ensure they are achievable.

Include dates to work towards so that when the group meets again as the Team Around the Child and Family (TACF) you can look at what progress has been made and what new actions are needed.



The Children's Advice Team

If you feel a FEHA is an appropriate method of support for a family you are working with, with consent from the family, you can contact The Children's Advice Team who will be able to offer you support and guidance with the process.

We will record the existence of the FEHA on our system.

We can advise you of any other known professionals that are working with the family that you may not already be aware of.

We can clarify if a FEHA is already in place and who the Lead Practitioner is and you can therefore contribute to that package of support.

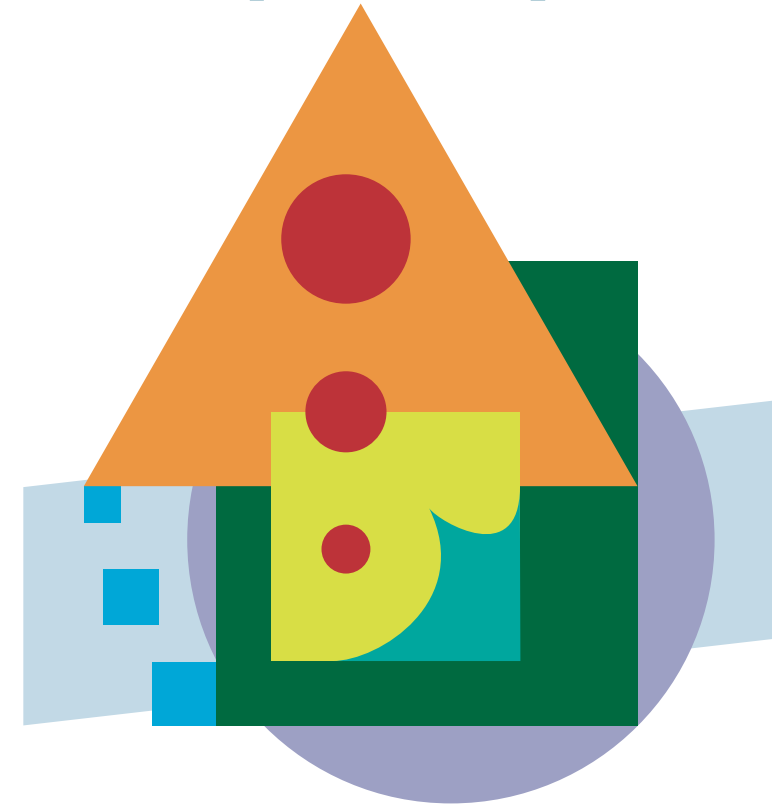
Contact details

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Children's Advice Team

Family Early Help Assessment (FEHA)



A Guide for Practitioners

If you are working with a child or family who you think may require additional help or support, then a FEHA may be the way forward.

This could be for a number of reasons – Living situation, bereavement, e-safety, isolation, bullying, health issues, risky behaviour, substance misuse.

The FEHA is a way of gathering information about children/young people and families in one place and using that information to help decide what type of support is needed.

Voice of the child and family

In order to get a full understanding of the family's situation, you need to speak to all members of the family, including the children – no matter what age. Think about how you can engage the children to best illustrate their life in the FEHA. This could be done through drawings and activities or questions.

For babies, parents and carers will be able to talk about what their baby likes/dislikes, routines etc.

Think FEHA...

Family

- It is the family's plan - an opportunity for the family to express what they would like to get out of the process.
- FEHA is consent based. A family should never feel they are having a FEHA "done" to them. The family should be included throughout the process.

Empathy

- Think about the parents/carers fears or concerns. Why might they be reluctant to engage and how can you break down these barriers.
- Remember to be positive - you want to **SUPPORT** the family.

It is all aimed at improving their children's situation, and therefore theirs as well.

Honesty

- It should always be undertaken in a sensitive manner in close communication with the family. It may take some time for the family to understand exactly what a Family Early Help Assessment is and they may therefore initially be resistant.
- All views should be recorded – detailing any areas of agreement or differences.

All together You can't do it on your own....

- The FEHA has been devised to aid and encourage communication between family members and practitioners who are involved with the family.
- There is an expectation that partners work together to assess, plan and support families to prevent problems escalating to the point where statutory intervention becomes necessary.
- The key to a robust assessment is to work together with the individuals in the family: adults, children, and young people and with all of the other professionals involved with the family. Each of you will hold different pieces of information which will contribute to the whole assessment.

Get a full picture!

It is a way for you and other professionals to understand what it is that the family needs and how best that can be provided. It should be a conversation or conversations over time.