



Prifysgol Cymru
Y Drindod Dewi Sant
University of Wales
Trinity Saint David

Module code: BMHP5021

Module title:

**Protecting and Supporting Families in
Health and Care**

WEEK 9

Revision and Assignment Support

Trawsnewid Addysg; Trawsnewid Bywydau
Transforming Education; Transforming Lives

06/08/2026



www.uwtsd.ac.uk

Week beginning	Topic	Notes
1 8 th June	Introduction to Children Rights and Parenting	
2 15 th June	Factors influencing the experiences of children and families	
3 22 nd June	Safeguarding, assessment of needs and theories of child development	
4 29 th June	History of children Protection in the UK	
5 6 th July	Policy and Legislation related to Child Protection	
6 13 th July	Multi and inter disciplinary responses and partnership with children, young people and families	
7 20 th July	Factors which impact on the multi and inter disciplinary responses and partnership working with families' practice	Submission for the 24 th of July for C1 - reference list
8 27 th July	Impact of emerging digital technologies on the role of practitioner and service user	Assessment Presentations – round the table C1
9 3 rd August	Revision and Assignment Support	
10 10 th August	Assignment Support	C2 – 14th of August

Learning objectives

- To review Assignment Brief of Component 2 Written Report
- To recap on key learning pertinent to this Assignment
- To discuss what makes digital information accessible

Child protection

- Child protection is part of the safeguarding process. It focuses on protecting individual children identified as suffering or likely to suffer significant harm.
- This includes child protection procedures which detail how to respond to concerns about a child.



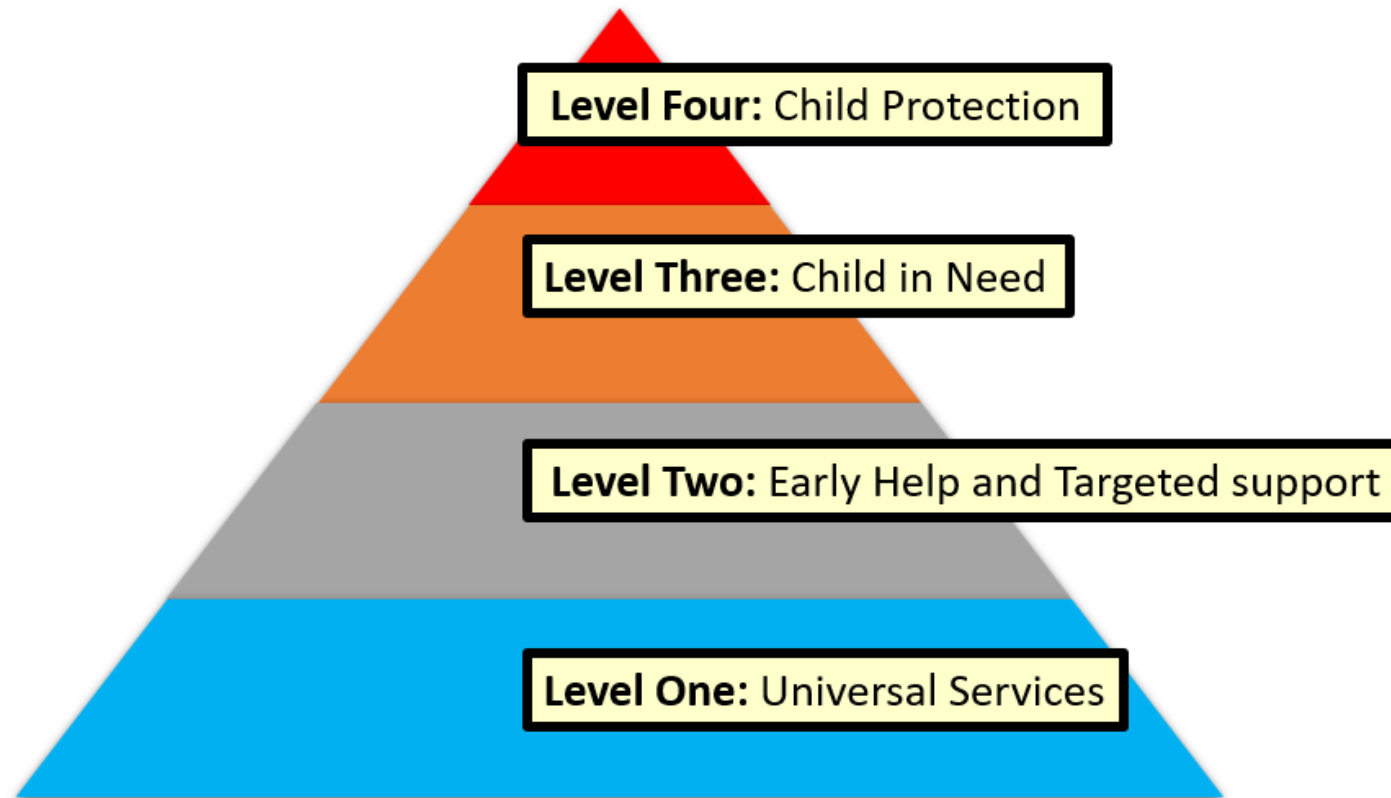
Source: <https://learning.nspcc.org.uk/safeguarding-child-protection/#:-text=Safeguarding%20is%20the%20action%20that%20of%20safe%20and%20effective%20care>

Safeguarding is..

- Safeguarding is the action that is taken to promote the welfare of children and protect them from harm.
- protecting children from abuse and maltreatment
- preventing harm to children's health or development
- ensuring children grow up with the provision of safe and effective care
- taking action to enable all children and young people to have the best outcomes.

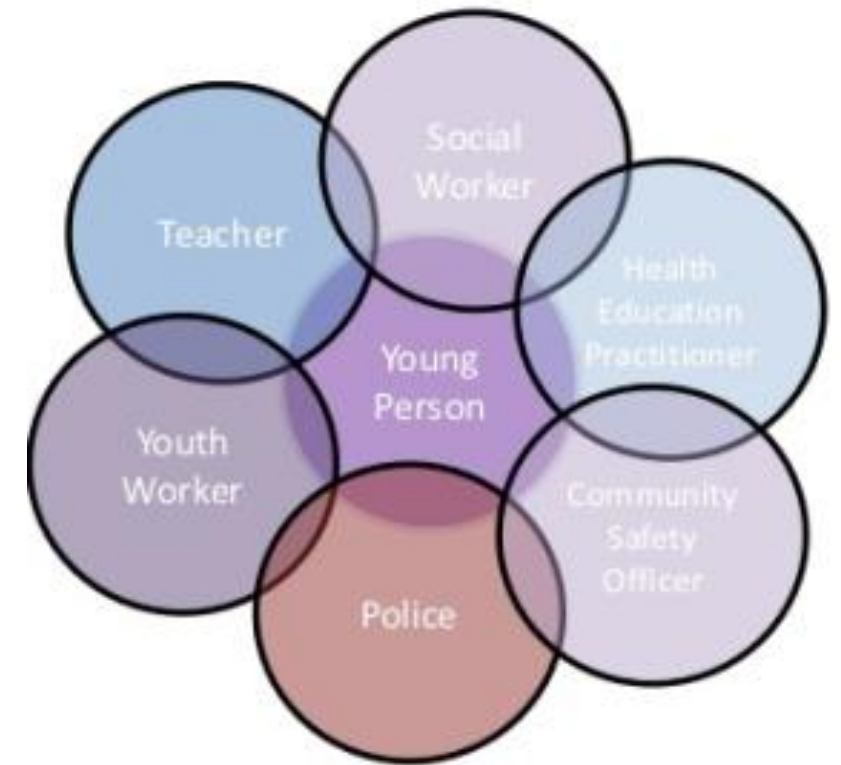
Source: <https://learning.nspcc.org.uk/safeguarding-child-protection/#:~:text=Safeguarding%20is%20the%20action%20that,of%20safe%20and%20effective%20care>

Threshold of Need

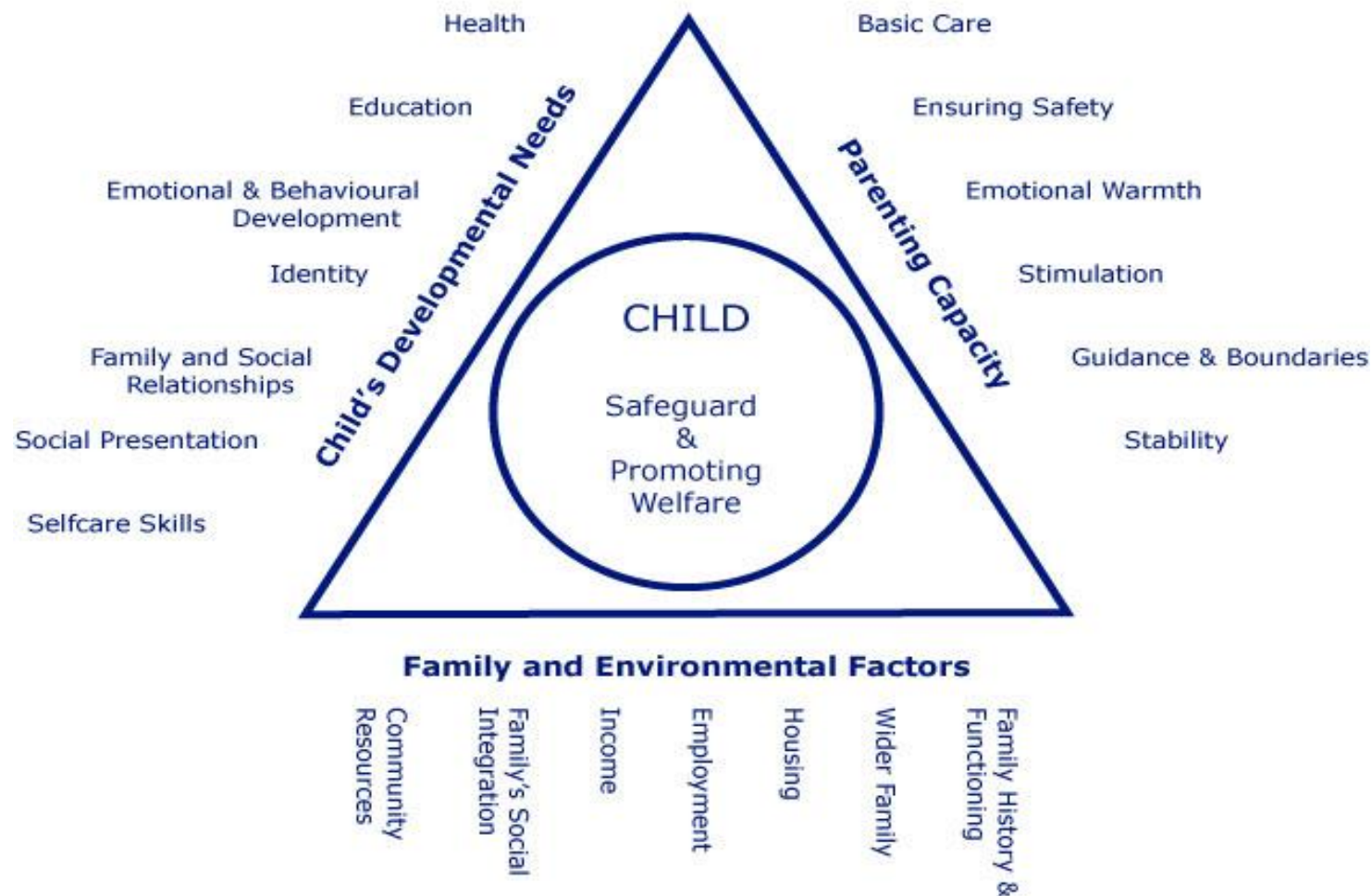


What is multi-agency working?

Multi-agency partnership working is where practitioners from more than one agency work together jointly, sharing aims, information, tasks, and responsibilities to intervene early to prevent problems arising that may impact children's learning and achievement.



Assessment Framework



Guidance & Legislation?

Guidance & Legislation

- [Working Together 2026](#)
- [Keeping children safe in education 2025, Statutory guidance for schools and colleges](#)
- **Children Act 2004 (Section 10):** Places a duty on local authorities to build cooperation arrangements between partner agencies (such as health services and the police) to improve children's well-being and target emerging problems
- **Children Act 2004 (Section 11):** Requires key local organizations and agencies to ensure they have adequate functions and safeguarding cultures in place to safeguard and promote the welfare of children

- **Children Act 1989 (Section 17):** Gives local authorities the legal power and core duty to provide support services for "children in need" within their area, which underpins targeted early intervention before statutory intervention becomes necessary
- **Children's Wellbeing and Schools Act 2026:** Introduces specific statutory duties making integrated Family Help, Multi-Agency Child Protection Teams (MACPTs), and Family Group Decision Making (FGDM) mandatory legal frameworks for local councils and safeguarding partners.

Key Legislation

Child In Need

Children Act 1989 (Section 17)

Children are defined as being “in need” when their vulnerability is such that:

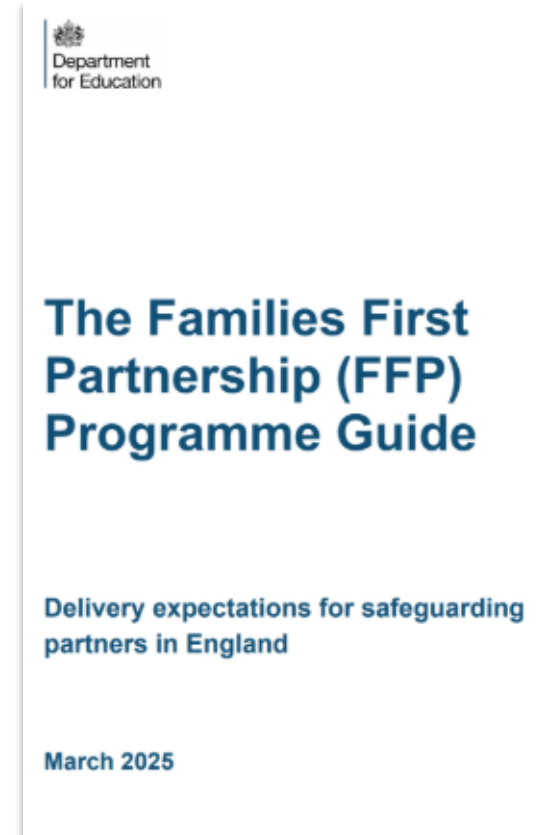
- They are unlikely to achieve or maintain, a satisfactory level of health or development without the provision of services by a local authority
- Their health or development will be significantly impaired without the provision of such services
- They are disabled – children automatically defined as Children In Need (CIN)

Local authorities, under section 10 of the **Children Act 2004**, have a responsibility to promote **inter-agency co-operation** to improve the welfare of all children.

The Families First Partnership (FFP) programme is a UK government reform initiative led by the Department for Education to transform children's social care in England.

It integrates targeted early help, child-in-need support, and statutory child protection into a single, cohesive local system by April 2027

[The Families First Partnership \(FFP\) Programme Guide](#)



- **Family Help Services:** Combines targeted early help and child-in-need processes into a seamless continuum to stop families from being passed between different teams.
- **Family Help Lead Practitioners (FHLPs):** Assigns a single, consistent professional (from social work or other relevant disciplines) to act as the primary, trusted point of contact for a family.
- **Multi-Agency Child Protection Teams (MACPTs):** Creates dedicated, expert local groups combining social care, health, police, and education staff to handle statutory child protection.
- **Family Group Decision Making (FGDM):** Promotes wider family-led plans and network meetings to support children safely before reaching crisis point or formal care proceedings.

Multi-agency working

Source: DfE

Date published: 08 May 2025

The Department for Education (DfE) has added new materials to support 'Working together to safeguard children',. These include an illustrated guide, an animated video and a toolkit of resources designed for practitioners to share and use with children, young people and their families.

Access the materials: [Working together to safeguard children](#)



What services and organisations
would be involved in Early Help?

Early Help System



Ref: Department for Education (2022) *Early Help System Guide A toolkit to assist local strategic partnerships responsible for their Early Help System*. Available at:

https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/media/628de13be90e071f5f7e1bd2/Early_Help_System_Guide.pdf.

In-text citation: (Department for Education, 2022)

Report Outline

- An introduction
- Explanation of the Early Help System
- Explanation of multi-agency working
- An evaluation of each of your three local authority websites.
- A comparative analysis of the main strengths and weakness of how the local authority websites communicate the Early Help and other support services available to families.
- Conclusion with recommendations for areas for improvement.
- The following two documents **must** be used within your report:
 - The Early Help System Guide - Early Help System Guide
 - Working Together to Safeguard Children 2026 - statutory guidance

‘Which local authority, from your choice of three, appears to have the most effective and accessible information relating to Early Help and other support services for families.’

Local Authorities to choose from, (please choose **three**):

- Leicestershire County Council - <https://www.leicester.gov.uk>
- Norfolk County Council - <https://www.norfolk.gov.uk/>
- Staffordshire County Council - <https://www.staffordshire.gov.uk/>
- Leeds City Council - <https://www.leeds.gov.uk/>
- Tower Hamlets Council - <https://www.towerhamlets.gov.uk/>
- Southwark Council - <https://southwark.gov.uk/>
- Nottinghamshire County Council - <https://www.nottinghamshire.gov.uk/>

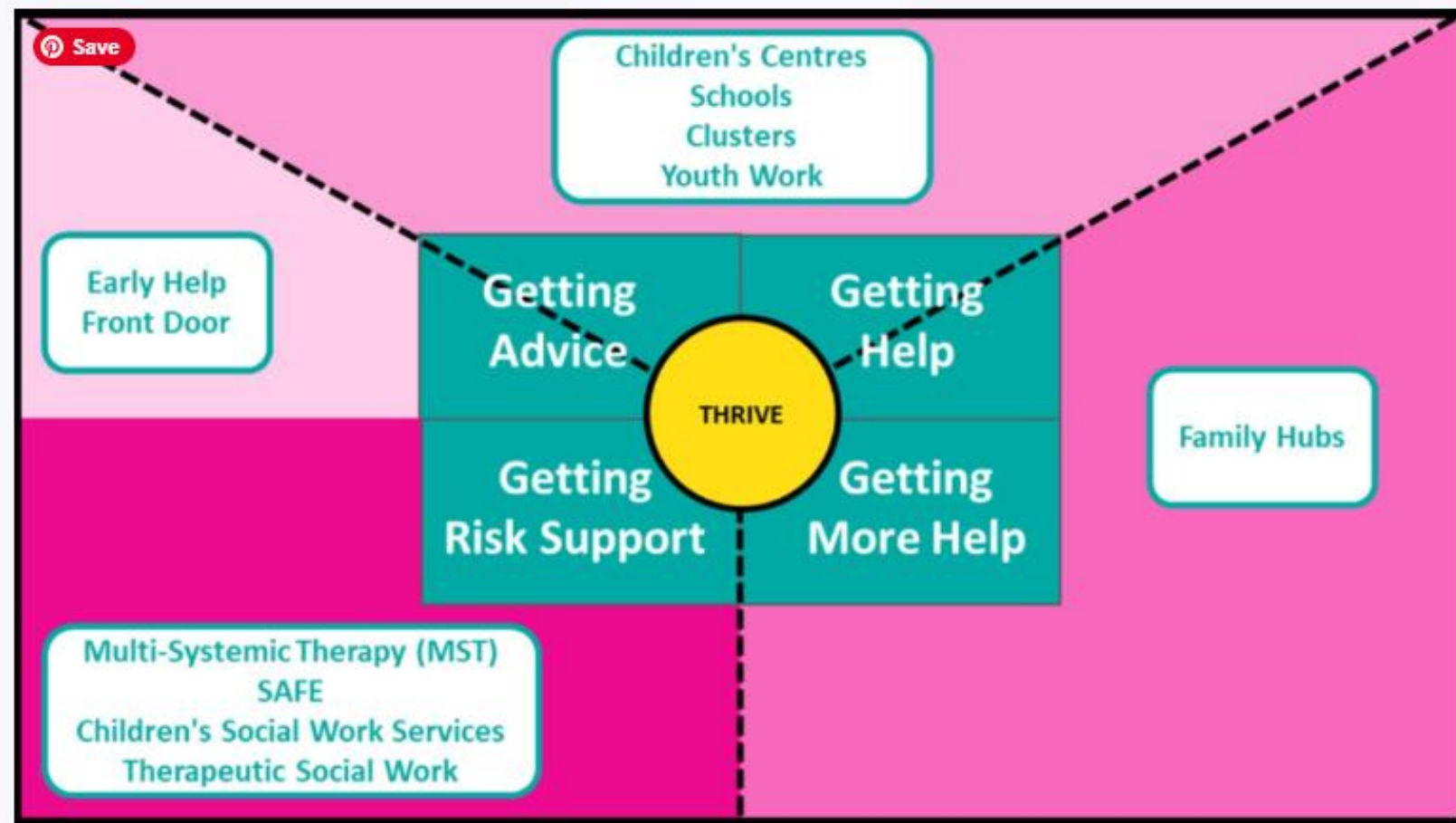
The [Families First Leeds](#) initiative provides early help and targeted support to families facing complex challenges.

Aligned with national children's social care reforms, the local approach unites schools, health services, local clusters, and Family Hubs to deliver coordinated care before issues escalate into costly statutory interventions. **Core Components of the Leeds Approach:**

- **Early Help Hubs & Front Door:** Offers single points of contact and assessments to get the right support into place quickly.
- **Local Clusters:** Operates across local partnerships (schools, health, police, and community groups) to tailor local interventions.
- **Family Group Conferencing (FGC):** Puts family networks at the heart of decision-making to resolve safeguarding and welfare issues.
- **Multi-Systemic Therapy (MST):** Intensive, multi-agency support for families with young people on the edge of care or custody

Leeds

Thrive model





In groups discuss:

What makes a good website for families to access Early Help?

Key components of an effective Early Help website

Clear and family-friendly explanation of Early Help

- Families need simple answers to:
- What is Early Help?
- Who is it for?
- What support is available?
- How can it help my family?
- The language should focus on support rather than intervention, using phrases such as "getting help early" or "support when things become difficult" rather than professional jargon.

Prominent self-referral and contact routes

- The website should make it easy for families to:
- Request support online
- Contact a Family Hub or Early Help team
- Use live chat, telephone or email 
- Find local services without professional referral
- Buttons such as "**Get Help Now**", "**Talk to Someone**", or "**Request Support**" should be visible on every page.

A searchable local support directory

- Families often seek help for a specific issue rather than searching for "Early Help."
- The website should include a searchable directory covering:
- Parenting support
- Mental health and wellbeing
- SEND support
- Domestic abuse
- Housing and financial support
- Youth activities
- Family Hubs
- Health services

Real-life family stories and testimonials

- Parents may worry about being judged.
- Include:
 - Short videos
 - Parent testimonials
 - Case studies showing positive outcomes
 - Frequently asked questions

Clear pathways based on need

- Families should be able to identify themselves through questions such as:
- "I'm worried about my child's behaviour."
- "We're struggling financially."
- "My teenager's mental health is causing concern."
- "I need parenting support."
- This approach is more effective than expecting families to understand service structures.

- Information in Plain Language: clear, simple language that is easy for parents and carers to understand, avoiding jargon.
- Provide clear information about the common challenges families face and the services available to address them.
- Parenting Support Tools: Offer resources such as guides, tips, and courses to help parents manage challenges, with both online and in-person options.

- Local Service Directory: Listing and describing the range of local services, such as counselling, advice, and support groups for mental health etc.
- Clear Referral Pathways
Make it easy for families and professionals to understand how and where to seek support, with clear contact information for coordinators and services.
- Ways for families and professionals to provide feedback, which can be used to continuously improve the website and the services it offers



Guidance

Understanding accessibility requirements for public sector bodies

Help your team understand why they need to meet the website and mobile app accessibility regulations.

Understanding accessibility

- Making a website or mobile app accessible means making sure it can be used by as many people as possible.
- This includes those with:
- impaired vision
- motor difficulties
- cognitive impairments or learning disabilities
- deafness or impaired hearing
- At least [1 in 5 people in the UK have a long term illness, impairment or disability](#). Many more have a temporary disability.
- Accessibility means more than putting things online. It means making your content and design clear and simple enough so that most people can use it without needing to adapt it, while supporting those who do need to adapt things.

<https://www.gov.uk/guidance/accessibility-requirements-for-public-sector-websites-and-apps>

References

Working Together to Safeguard Children 2026. (n.d.). [online] Available at:
https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/media/69fb1c28d0e316a40f269a5b/Working_together_to_safeguard_children_2026_a_guide_to_multi_agency_working.pdf

Department for Education (2022) *Early Help System Guide A toolkit to assist local strategic partnerships responsible for their Early Help System*. Available at:
https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/media/628de13be90e071f5f7e1bd2/Early_Help_System_Guide.pdf.

In-text citation: (Department for Education, 2022)