

# Early Help Partnership Strategy 2022-25 Consultation 2021

**Opens:** 1 November 2021

**Closes:** 12 December 2021

**Contact:** Education Transformation and Improvement Team  
[engageeducation@buckinghamshire.gov.uk](mailto:engageeducation@buckinghamshire.gov.uk)  
0300 131 6000

## **What is the purpose of this consultation?**

We are holding this consultation to gather your views about our draft *Early Help Partnership Strategy 2022-2025* (the Strategy). Our current Strategy expires in March 2022, so we have created a new one to help us plan for the next 3 years.

## **What is Early Help?**

We want to make sure that children, young people, and their families receive support to deal with problems before they get worse. This support is known as Early Help.

When problems grow, they can become longer-lasting, traumatic, harder to resolve and need more costly support from services like social care, health services and police.

Early Help involves many different services, which are provided by a range of organisations across Buckinghamshire. These organisations include the Council, NHS, schools, charities, community groups and others.

There are different types of support, for example, advice and information, drop-in sessions at Family Centres, direct support from an individual professional, or coordinated support from a group of professionals working together.

## **Who does the Strategy affect?**

The contents of this Strategy will affect children, young people and families in Buckinghamshire who may need support to deal with the problems they face. These could be to do with behaviours and boundaries at home, lack of routine, school attendance, lack of self-esteem or confidence, financial problems, and many more. The Strategy also affects organisations that work with children, young people, and their families.

## The Strategy

The purpose of the Strategy is to set out:

- the need for Early Help
- why it is important
- what the partnership is already doing
- what our priorities are for the future
- what actions we will take
- how we will measure success

The Strategy sets out 4 priorities:

1. Strengthen multi-agency strategic governance and joint ownership of the *Early Help Strategy*
2. Further develop the Early Help offer to include a targeted response to the increased risk of long-term disadvantage for children, young people, and families due to the Covid-19 pandemic
3. Work together to provide effective Early Help in line with our strategic objectives and *Early Help Partnership Action Plan* that supports children, young people, and families to easily access support
4. Develop a common understanding of Early Help across the partnership and promote a cohesive Buckinghamshire offer

Please read the full Strategy and Summary documents we have drafted. We strongly recommend you read these before providing your feedback.

## How to get involved

- Complete the online survey below
- Register to attend one of our online consultation events by emailing us on [engageeducation@buckinghamshre.gov.uk](mailto:engageeducation@buckinghamshre.gov.uk) or phoning us on 0300 131 6000. We are holding these events on the following dates:
  - Tuesday 9 November, 2 - 3pm
  - Wednesday 10 November, 11am – 12pm
  - Monday 15 November, 7 - 8pm

## What happens next

We will review all the feedback we receive to guide us in making any relevant changes to the Early Help Partnership Strategy and Summary documents. The final, amended versions of both documents will then go to the Children and Young People's Partnership Board and the Council's Corporate Management Team for approval.

Once approved, we will publish the Strategy and Summary on our [Family Information Service website](#) sometime in Spring 2022 and promote them. If you would like to receive printed versions of these documents, please email or phone us using the contact details above.

## Privacy

We will use the information you provide here only for the purpose of this consultation. We will keep the information confidential and store it securely, in line with data protection laws and will not share or publish any personal details. For more information about data and privacy, please see our [Privacy Policy online](#) or contact us for a printed version.

If you have questions, please email us on [dataprotection@buckinghamshire.gov.uk](mailto:dataprotection@buckinghamshire.gov.uk). or write to our Data Protection Officer at Buckinghamshire Council, The Gateway, Gatehouse Road, Aylesbury, HP19 8FF.

## Consultation survey

### Understanding the Strategy

Before answering these questions, please read the Strategy or Summary document.

The purpose of the Strategy is to outline:

- the need for Early Help
- why it is important
- what the partnership is already doing
- what our priorities are for the future
- what actions we will take
- how we will measure success

#### 1. How easy or difficult is it to understand the Strategy document?

- Very easy
- Quite easy
- OK
- Quite difficult
- Very difficult
- I haven't read it

#### 2. How could we make the Strategy document easier to understand?

**3. How easy or difficult is it to understand the Summary document?**

- Very easy
- Quite easy
- OK
- Quite difficult
- Very difficult
- I haven't read it

**4. How could we make the Summary document easier to understand?**

## Strategy priorities

Before answering these questions, please read details of the priorities on pages 14-15 of the Strategy document or pages 2-3 of the Summary document.

The Strategy sets out 4 priorities:

1. Strengthen multi-agency strategic governance and joint ownership of the *Early Help Strategy*
2. Further develop the Early Help offer to include a targeted response to the increased risk of long-term disadvantage for children, young people, and families due to the Covid-19 pandemic
3. Work together to provide effective Early Help in line with our strategic objectives and *Early Help Partnership Action Plan* that supports children, young people, and families to easily access support
4. Develop a common understanding of Early Help across the partnership and promote a cohesive Buckinghamshire offer

### 5. To what extent do you agree or disagree with the Strategy priorities?

Please place a tick in one box for each of the priorities listed.

	Strongly agree	Agree	Neither agree nor disagree	Disagree	Strongly disagree
<b>Priority 1</b> Strengthen multi-agency strategic governance and joint ownership of the <i>Early Help Strategy</i>					
<b>Priority 2</b> Further develop the Early Help offer to include a targeted response to the increased risk of long-term disadvantage for children, young people, and families due to the Covid-19 pandemic					

	Strongly agree	Agree	Neither agree nor disagree	Disagree	Strongly disagree
<b>Priority 3</b> Work together to provide effective Early Help in line with our strategic objectives and <i>Early Help Partnership Action Plan</i> that supports children, young people, and families to easily access support					
<b>Priority 4</b> Develop a common understanding of Early Help across the partnership and promote a cohesive Buckinghamshire offer					

**6. If you disagree or strongly disagree with any of the priorities, please tell us why.**

**7. If you think we should consider anything else in the priorities, please provide details.**

## About you

### 8. Which of the following best describes you?

- A young person aged up to 25 **Go to question 9**
- A parent or carer of children/young people aged 25 or under **Go to question 12**
- A professional who works with children, young people, and families **Go to question 18**
- A representative of an organisation in Buckinghamshire **Go to question 15**
- A representative of an organisation outside Buckinghamshire **Go to question 15**
- A councillor or MP in Buckinghamshire **Go to question 18**
- Other (please specify) **Go to question 18**

## Young people

### 9. How old are you?

- Under 16
- 16 - 18
- 19
- 20-25

### 10. Where do you receive your education?

- School or college
- Another place of education
- I am educated at home
- I am not in education

### 11. Do you have special educational needs or disabilities (SEND)?

- Yes
- No
- I'm not sure

**Go to question 18**

## Parents and carers

### 12. How old are the children?

Please choose all that apply.

- Under 2 years
- 2-4 years
- 4-5 years
- 5–11 years
- 11–16 years
- 16-18 years
- 19 years
- 20-25 years

### 13. Do any of your children have special educational needs or disabilities (SEND)?

- Yes
- No

### 14. Where are your children educated?

Please choose all that apply.

- School or college
- Another place of education
- At home
- Not in education

**Please go to question 18**



## Your organisation

15. What is the name of your organisation?

16. To what extent do you agree or disagree with the following statements?

	Strongly agree	Agree	Neither agree nor disagree	Disagree	Strongly disagree
The draft Early Help Partnership Strategy reflects my organisation's focus					
The draft Early Help Partnership Strategy will enable collaborative working between organisations					

17. What changes could we make to the Strategy to reflect your organisation's focus and enable better collaborative working?

## **Additional comments**

**18. If you have any other feedback about the Early Help Partnership Strategy 2022-25, please provide details here.**

## **Thank you for completing the consultation survey.**

Please return your completed form by Sunday 12 December 2021. You can:

- Post it to Sharon Sachania  
Education Transformation and Improvement Team  
Buckinghamshire Council  
Walton Street Offices  
Aylesbury  
HP20 1UA
- Take it to one of our four main council access points located at:
  - The Gateway, Gatehouse Road, Aylesbury, HP19 8FF
  - Walton Street Offices, Aylesbury, HP20 1UA
  - Queen Victoria Road, High Wycombe, HP11 1BB
  - King George V House, King George V Road, Amersham, HP6 5AW