

The EISG is also making sense of all of the strategies and policies that support early intervention, as well as the various sources of funding for early intervention.

This will help the CYPSP planning groups to plan the best use of funding from different sources for co-ordinated early intervention in the places that children and families need it.



All of this is about planning early intervention for whole populations of children and young people. The CYPSP also oversees the development of **Family Support Hubs** which are there to make sure that individual children and families get what they need.

A Family Support Hub is a multi-agency network of statutory, community and voluntary organisations that either provide early intervention services or work with families who need early intervention services.

The network accepts referrals of families who need early intervention family support and uses their knowledge of local service providers and the Family Support Database (www.familysupportni.gov.uk) to signpost families with specific needs to appropriate services.

CONTACT THE CYPSP

For information on the Early Intervention Sub Group work of the CYPSP please contact:

Maurice Leeson
Children's Services Planning
Professional Advisor
Tel No. (028) 9055 3972
Email: Maurice.leeson@hscni.net

Or

Stephanie Thompson
Children's Services Planning Support
Officer
Tel No. (028) 9055 3972
Email: Stephanie.thompson@hscni.net

www.cypsp.org

If you require this document in an alternative format (such as large print) please contact the CYPSP through the contact details attached on this leaflet



Children & Young People's Strategic Partnership

EARLY INTERVENTION

For additional information please visit our website
www.cypsp.org



What is early intervention?

The CYPSP has agreed that the best way to achieve better outcomes to be achieved for children and young people is for them to get the support they need at the right time and as early as possible.

The CYPSP has agreed the following broad and inclusive definition of early intervention;

Early intervention is 'intervening early and as soon as possible to tackle problems emerging for children, young people and their families or with a population at risk of developing problems. Early intervention may occur at any stage in a child's life'.
(Grasping the Nettle Report, 2009)

This definition includes the fact that early intervention is needed to tackle problems which can otherwise carry forward through generations of the same family. The 'populations at risk' in the definition includes specific geographic communities.

The CYPSP is making sure that all of its planning groups; Regional Sub Groups, Outcomes Groups, Locality Planning Groups concentrate on making more early intervention supports and services available for their group of children and young people.

Who is involved?

Many people are involved in early intervention. Also many different strategies and policies that support early intervention, are stemming from Government. Funding comes from different sources including Government and the private sector but none of this is joined up.

The CYPSP has set up an Early Intervention Sub Group (EISG) and agreed the actions needed to provide a **co-ordinated** process to make the most of everyone's work in early intervention.

What do they do?

We need to know what already exists in order to improve, change or add to these supports, to fill the **gaps** in early intervention. Therefore, the EISG is mapping all early intervention across Northern Ireland. This means everything from grass roots community based support to specialised early intervention services offered by statutory or voluntary agencies.

Many early intervention supports are already listed on the family support database. We are also bringing together information from Government and private funding bodies, so that the map includes all early intervention support in Northern Ireland. All of this, together, makes up a tapestry of support for all children, young people and families who need something more than universal services.

The EISG will only be able to map all these services properly with involvement from all the CYPSP planning groups, as this means that children and young people, communities and staff from organisations who understand what is happening in local areas are all involved.

The EISG also intends to **measure the effectiveness** of early intervention across Northern Ireland. It will look at existing evaluations and outcomes based monitoring processes. It will also develop and try out the use of a single process which any early intervention service could use, based on measuring how well the service improves the ability of children, young people or families to cope with difficult circumstances (this is called resilience).

To make sure that this support really works for children and young people it needs to be connected. The CYPSP has decided that it will put in place better **co-ordination** across early intervention and between early intervention and universal services.

