

Ealing Family Information Service

Izra Bernard

CHILDREN'S SERVICES

Content

What is the Family Information Service (FIS)?

- **Information, Advice and Guidance (statutory duty, service offer)**
- **Early Years Funding 2, 3 & 4 year olds**
- **Holiday Activity & Food (HAF) Programme**
- **Early Help**
- **Special Education Needs and Disability (SEND) Local Offer**

What is the Family Information Service?

Section 12 of the Childcare Act 2006 (the information duty) places a statutory duty on all local authorities in England to deliver **information**, **advice** and **assistance** to parents of children up to the age of 20 years and up to 25 years for young people with a disability or additional need.

The London Borough of Ealing delivers this through the provision of the Family Information Service (FIS).

Family Information Service

At Ealing's Family Information Service, we make sure that children, young people and families living in the borough, get the information, advice and guidance they need on all the local services and different types of support available to them.

- ✓ Registered childcare e.g. nurseries, childminders, etc
- ✓ Help available with the cost of childcare including Tax Credits, early years funding for two, three and four-year-old
- ✓ Support organisations and services
- ✓ Registered Food Bank Referrer
- ✓ Access services and support for families living with addition needs and/or disabilities
- ✓ Local activities for children and young people

The FIS also:

- ✓ Offer a brokerage service
- ✓ Dedicated SEND Officer in our team who can provide bespoke



0208 825 5588 children@ealing.gov.uk

Family Services Directory FSD
www.ealingfamiliesdirectory.org.uk

Two Year Old Funding

[Help paying for childcare: Free education and childcare for 2-year-olds - GOV.UK \(www.gov.uk\)](https://www.gov.uk)

FREE childcare places of up to **15 hours per week** over 38 weeks of the year for children aged 2 whose families are on a low income. Starts from the term after child's 2nd birthday.

Benefits:

- ✓ Build early socialisation skills
- ✓ Develop speaking and listening skills
- ✓ Have fun learning new things
- ✓ Improve confidence and get school ready

Research shows children who go to high-quality early education and childcare providers make good progress with their language, physical and social development.

When the time comes for them to go to school they are better prepared and this advantage stays with them right through school and into adulthood

Two Year Old Funding

[Help paying for childcare: Free education and childcare for 2-year-olds - GOV.UK \(www.gov.uk\)](https://www.gov.uk/help-paying-for-childcare)

Eligibility criteria:

- Income Support
- Income-based Jobseeker's Allowance (JSA)
- Income-related Employment and Support Allowance (ESA)
- Universal Credit, and your household income is £15,400 a year or less after tax, not including benefit payments
- Child tax credits, and your household income is £16,190 a year or less before tax

2-year-olds can also get free childcare if they:

- Are looked after by a local authority
- Supported by an Education, Health and Care (EHC) Plan
- Receive [Disability Living Allowance](#)
- Have left Care under an adoption order, special guardianship order or a child arrangements order,
- Under a Child Protection Plan

Ealing's two-year-old eligibility checker

www.ealingfamiliesdirectory.org.uk

Family Services Directory FSD
www.ealingfamiliesdirectory.org.uk

Two Year Old Funding

A non-UK citizen who cannot claim benefits

Your 2-year-old may get free childcare if your immigration status says that you have 'no recourse to public funds' and your household income is no more than:

- £34,500 for families with one child
- £38,600 for families within London with two or more children

You cannot have more than £16,000 in savings or investments.

**To apply email
children@ealing.gov.uk**

Three and Four Year Old Funding

[Help paying for childcare: 15 hours free childcare for 3 and 4-year-olds - GOV.UK \(www.gov.uk\)](https://www.gov.uk)

Eligibility criteria:

- All children are eligible - regardless of income or residency status
- For all families in England
- For children who are 3- and 4-year-olds
- Starts the term after the child's 3rd birthday
- 15 hours of free childcare or early education for 38 weeks



How to apply:

Find an [approved childcare provider www.ealingfamiliesdirectory.org.uk](http://www.ealingfamiliesdirectory.org.uk) - Childcare and Early Learning

Three and Four Year Old 30 Hours

[30 hours free childcare - GOV.UK \(www.gov.uk\)](https://www.gov.uk)

Enabling more parents to access employment with participating childcare providers

Extension of 3 & 4 year olds offer- 30 hours free (includes the 15 hours) childcare over 38 weeks of the year (approved childcare provider on register) if criteria is met.

Eligibility criteria

- ✓ Live in England
- ✓ Income per person less than £100,000
- ✓ must each expect to earn (on average) at least £142 per week (equal to 16 hours at the National Minimum or Living Wage)
- ✓ are on maternity, paternity or adoption leave, or you're unable to work because you are disabled or have caring responsibilities, you could still be eligible.

How to apply: [Apply for 30 hours free childcare - GOV.UK \(www.gov.uk\)](https://www.gov.uk)

Holiday Activities & Food (HAF) Programme

Free holiday provision available to children and young people (Reception- Yr11) eligible for benefits-related free school meals and some limited places for vulnerable children and young people. Funding has been confirmed until the end of 2024.

Spring , Summer and Winter school holidays at least 4 hours a day, 4 days a week for 6 weeks a year.

What we're trying to achieve through this programme is for children who attend provision:

- a) To eat more healthily over the school holidays;
- b) To be more active during the school holidays;
- c) To take part in engaging and enriching activities which support the development of resilience, character and well being along with their wider education attainment;
- d) To be safe and not to be socially isolated;
- e) To have greater knowledge of health nutrition; and
- f) To be more engaged with school and other local services.



[Ealing Holiday Activities and Food \(HAF\) Programme | Ealing Directory \(ealingfamiliesdirectory.org.uk\)](https://ealingfamiliesdirectory.org.uk)

Holiday Activities & Food (HAF) Programme

Children and families who do not meet standard eligibility criteria

Local authorities have discretion to use up to 15% of their funding to provide free or subsidised holiday club places for children who are not in receipt of benefits-related free school meals but who the local authority believe could benefit from HAF provision. This may include, for example:

- children assessed by the local authority as being in need, at risk or vulnerable
- young carers
- looked-after children or previously looked after children
- children with an EHC plan (education, health and care)
- children who have low attendance rates at school or who are at risk of exclusion
- children living in areas of high deprivation or from low-income households who are not in receipt of free school meals
- children in transition phases between nursery and primary school or primary and secondary school

These places will be allocated via a referral system for

Professionals

HAF@ealing.gov.uk



Early Help Assessment & Plan (EHAP)

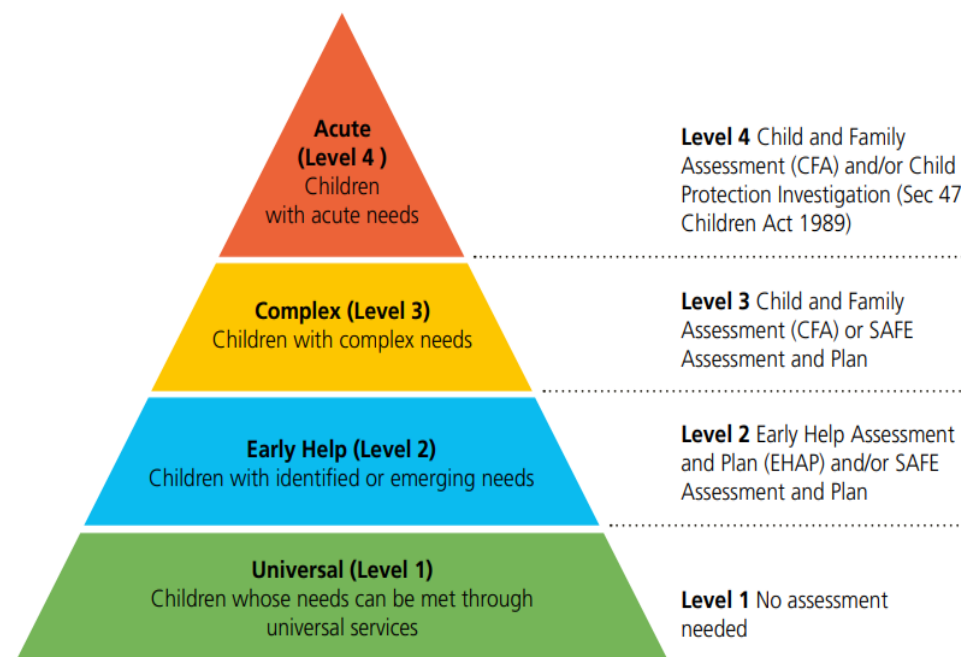
The Early Help Assessment and Plan (EHAP) is the process and tool Ealing uses for professionals to supporting children and young people and their families, through the delivery of multi-agency, multi-disciplinary or targeted support.

This is done as early as possible to tackle an emerging problem or issue before it becomes bigger, harder to address and affects the development or life chances of the child or children in the family

The EHAP is only used when a multi-agency, multi-disciplinary or targeted approach is necessary.

EHAP used for Step Down from Social Care.

Thresholds of need and response



Additional Needs & Disability

Izra Bernard is the additional needs/ disability officer based at the Family Information Service who navigates families through statutory & voluntary services. She provides families and professionals with:

- Information & support accessing services- **Information surgeries**
- Attending/Setting up Coffee Mornings- **how to use the Local Offer to support/empower families**
- Parent/staff training on Local Offer- **Local Offer staff induction training**
- Focus Group/ Consultation on Local Offer- **improve/shape future services**
- Brokerage service- **tailored support to families**

Izra Bernard
020 8825 5588

children@ealing.gov.uk

Family Services Directory FSD

www.ealingfamiliesdirectory.org.uk

Local Offer

- Local Offer website is a statutory requirement - all boroughs have their own unique offer
- Local Offer is a useful resource for **parents, young people** and **professionals**
 - services and support if concerned about child's development
 - early intervention support and advice whilst awaiting diagnosis
 - Local family support services
 - Referral pathways for therapeutic services e.g., Speech & Language Therapy, Child Development Team
 - Education, Health & Care Plan process, timescales
 - Inclusive activities and things to do
 - Money & Benefits e.g., discounts, grants
 - Information for young people (Preparing for Adulthood), includes: careers advice and guidance, managing finances, travel assistance
- **Primary aim of Local Offer :**
 - Empowering families to access information at the point of need
 - Higher aspirations for children and young people with special educational needs
 - Improved quality of life chances of children and families with additional needs



Ealing Local Offer

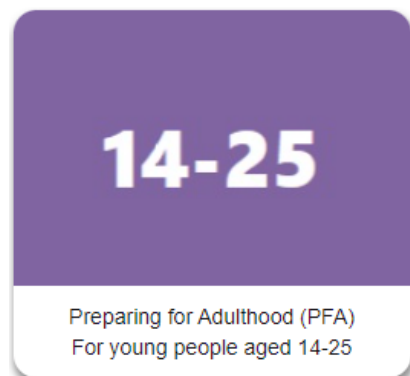
For 0-25 year olds with special educational needs or a disability

www.ealinglocaloffer.org.uk

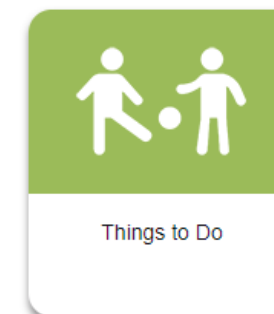
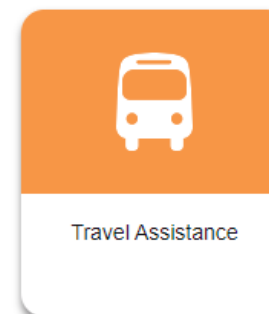
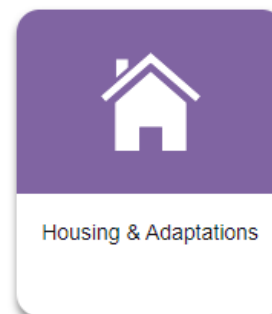
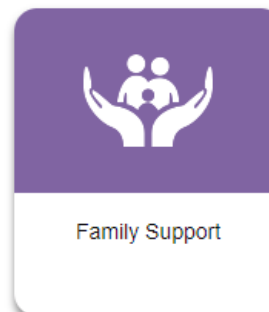
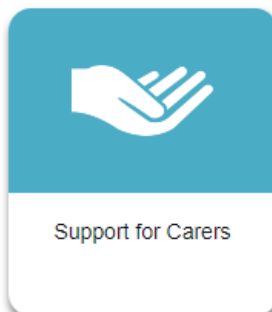
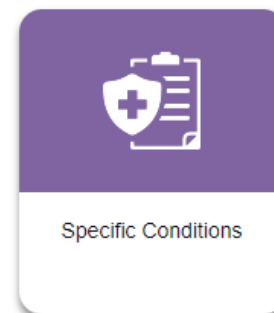
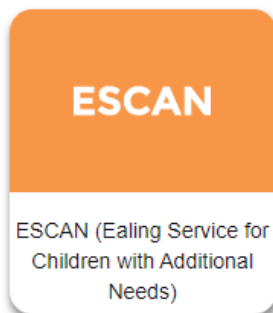
Contact us on 020 8825 5588 or email children@ealing.gov.uk

Local Offer

The Local Offer website is a resource to help you understand what is available and how to access services and support services available to children and young people aged 0-25, and families 'locally' who are living with Special Educational Needs and Disability ([SEND](#)).



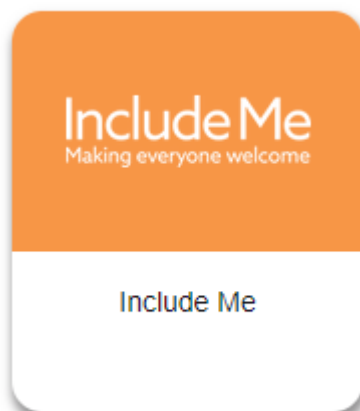
<https://www.facebook.com/ealinglocaloffer>



www.ealinglocaloffer.org.uk

Local Offer

'**Include Me**' is our new page to promote and share any upcoming consultation opportunities where parents/carers and young people can get involved to have their say on services supporting children, young people and families in Ealing.



Current consultations

- **AEND Draft Strategy**
- **Local Offer refresh**

(Easy-read interactive surveys available)

Different ways to engage in consultation opportunities:

- Focus groups
- Online surveys
- Telephone
- In-person

OR... tell us how best you want to give feedback

Local Offer- MORE than a website...

Be part of Ealing's thriving SEND community:
practical, emotional & financial support

- Learn more about your child's condition
- **Condition specific parent support groups**
- SEN & EHCP process/appeals & transitions support
- **Information sessions help you understand SEND Law & procedures**
- Be part of Ealing's parent voice-shape existing & future SEND services
- **Toy library**
- Counselling services
- **Family events/trips**
- Benefits/form filling support (DLA, PIP, Family Fund grants)
- **Young people & family advice surgeries**

Ealing Parent & Carer's Forum **Ealing Anchor Foundation**

EalingISAID

Ealing Mencap

Contact Ealing

Local Offer- accessibility

Adapt the Local Offer website to meet your needs

- Google Translate- translatable in over 100 community languages
- Setting can be saved for future visits
- Text size- zoom up to 300%
- Choose colour contrast- cream, blue or high contrast
- Listen to most of the website using screen reader
- Easy read guide- how to use and navigate the LO
[easy_read_guide_to_using_ealing_local_offer_3.pdf \(openobjects.com\)](#)

Key Updates

- **HAF Winter programme** online bookings open 16th November. SEN/EHCP supported and vulnerable children are able to potentially access the HAF programme not qualify under the usual criteria of being in receipt of benefits related free school meal. As a professional, you will need to contact the HAF team for a referral form by emailing HAF@ealing.gov.uk
- **Local Offer Refresh** - we are committed to continually co-producing and updating the LO based on on-going feedback that we receive. Less clicks to access information, more visuals/ videos and simplified YP friendly language in PFA sections (e.g., Pathways to work & training). LO opportunities to consult coming soon- is there anything you'd like to see on the LO?
- **Nominate Parent Champion(s)** - seamless and efficient exchange of information. Rep is a bridge between parents and LA- conduit (back and forth) of targeted information sharing on matters important to your school community. Represent and feedback to LA decision makers the issues affecting your parents. Go to Parent Champion to canvass feedback from parents on current consultations.
- **Parent Portal**- goes live after October Half Term. Digitalisation of the ERSA process- improving transparency and communication of information sharing among parents and professionals . Any parent going through EHCP process can opt to be part of the Portal.
- **Cost of living- help for Households** (Disability cost of living payment £150; Council Tax Rebate of £150, Household Support Fund & Holiday Food Vouchers; Social Tariff lower cost phone & Broadband; Local Welfare Assistance...and more) [Cost of Living Support | Ealing Directory \(ealingfamiliesdirectory.org.uk\)](#)
- **Ukraine Support for Families** (resettlement support, financial and family support) [Ukraine- support for families | Ealing Directory \(ealingfamiliesdirectory.org.uk\)](#)

Stay Connected

Keep up to date and plugged into ALL the exciting events, parent information workshops, SEND news and more available to Ealing parents, children and young people!

- **Facebook** [Ealing Local Offer | Facebook](#)
- **E-Newsletter-** monthly circular. Sign up now, [Register to Ealing Local Offer Newsletter \(uploadlibrary.com\)](#)

Contact Information

Ealing Family Information Service (FIS)

Tel: 020 8825 5588 (Mon-Fri 9am-1pm)

E: children@ealing.gov.uk (general enquiries)

Directory: www.ealingfamiliesdirectory.org.uk

Early Help Assessment and Plan

EHAP@ealing.gov.uk

www.ealing.gov.uk

Holiday Activities and Food (HAF) Programme

HAF@ealing.gov.uk

www.ealingfamiliesdirectory.org.uk