

DAF 1 (Identify)

The first part of the DAF 1 replaces the Family Health Needs Assessment, which is an assessment carried out by a Health Visitor a few days after a child is born. This collects information about the child, their family and their environment – information that may be useful later on in the child's life, if additional needs are identified. If a child is born with additional needs then they could immediately continue through the DAF process. If additional needs aren't identified until later in life then this information would be filed away until that time and then picked back up and added.

DAF 1 (Assess)

The second part of the DAF 1 records any assessments carried out with a child, after additional needs have been identified. Details about the child/family collected through assessments can be directly recorded on the DAF 1 paperwork or professionals may produce reports about the assessments they carry out with a child and these could be attached to the DAF 1. Once the needs of the child have been identified and assessed, there is an expectation that the professionals involved would meet with you, through a Team Around the Child (TAC) meeting (sometimes called Team Around Me – TAM) in order to produce a My Plan.

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DAF 2a (My Plan)

The DAF 2a is the 'My Plan'. This is a non-statutory education, health & care plan which can be used for any child who has additional needs that have been identified, whether they are education, health or care needs, or a combination of any of these. The My Plan should be agreed with you and all the professionals involved in supporting your child, through a TAC/TAM meeting. The My Plan should detail each specific need your child has, along with an outcome for each need and then the support that will be put in place to meet this outcome. The My Plan should also detail the cost of this support and who is responsible for providing it. These costings can be used to calculate whether additional resources are required for your child, which may be accessed through using the DAF 3 'Request for Additional Resources' process & paperwork.

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DAF 2b (My EHC Plan)

The DAF 2b is the 'My EHC Plan'. This is a statutory Education, Health & Care Plan (EHCP) for children with complex needs, who require special school education or mainstream education with access to specialist support. The content of the My EHC Plan is very similar to that of the My Plan, in respect of detailing needs, outcomes and support, along with costings. However, a My EHC Plan would be written by the 0-25 SEN Team, following a statutory EHC assessment being carried out of evidence collected through the DAF process. As this is a statutory process there is a statutory timescale of 20 weeks from requesting an EHCP to receiving one as well as other guidelines around how the process should be carried out. The DAF 3 could also be used to request additional resources to meet the needs identified in the My EHC Plan.

DAF 4 (Post 16)

The DAF 4 is used with young people in secondary school who have a My EHC Plan, as a planning tool for what they are going to do when they finish school (post 16). This helps them to think about what they may like to do in the future and how Further Education (FE) may help them to achieve this. The My EHC Plan may need to be updated to reflect this but would continue to support the young person, whilst they are in Further Education.

That is the Devon Assessment Framework (DAF). Devon Parent Partnership Service can support you to include your and your child's view.

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