

7. Recording Expectations

- ❑ Practitioners must record essential information about the application in the child's EHM/LCS record.
- ❑ Keep an accurate record of the application(s) made and status granted, as part of the child's plan.
- ❑ For children who have a pre-settled status outcome, the plan to convert this into a settled status (including timescales) will be documented in the child's plan by the practitioner.

6. LA Responsibilities

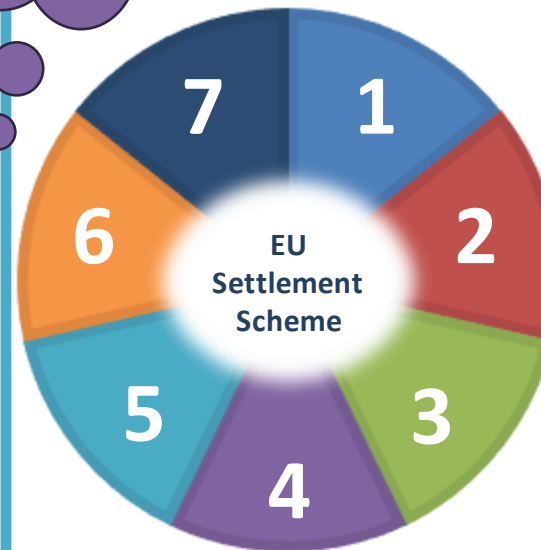
- ❑ NCC must seek to secure the best possible outcomes for all cared for children, including identifying and addressing immigration issues early.
- ❑ The responsibility of the practitioner differs depending on the reason they are working with the child (and the legal framework):
 - Cared for children for whom LA has parental responsibility (Care Order, Interim Care Order or Placement Order)
 - Cared for children who are accommodated (S20)
 - Care Leavers (who may be adults)
 - Youth Secure setting (under 18)
 - Any other child in receipt of support (CIN, CPP, PFA, SGO)
- ❑ See NCC Guidance: [EU Settlement Scheme Guidance](#)

Seek legal advice..



5. Pre-application checklist

1. Check out the Home Office [toolkit](#) to assist practitioners to help support EU citizens with their application to stay.
2. **Consider whether the child might be a British citizen.** If they are, they are not eligible for the scheme. Check if a child is a British citizen using this [guidance](#) and consider what is – or will be – in the **best interests** of the child.
3. Consider the child's **wishes and feelings** and tell them about their right to access independent advocacy support.
4. **Gather identity and nationality documents** or make an application for them if there are none.
5. **Consider evidence of UK residence.** This is usually a letter from the LA confirming the length of residence.
6. **Record** all key information that will need to be accessed by the child, carer or practitioners in the future.



1. Background

- ❑ Following the UK's exit from the EU Swiss nationals and their family members who arrived in the UK before 31 December 2020 and want to continue to live here must apply to the EU Settlement Scheme (EUSS).
- ❑ **Eligible nationals will be granted either pre-settled or settled status.**
- ❑ Children can link their application for settled status to their parent's application. This means a child under five years-old can be granted settled status by applying in this way.
- ❑ **Eligible children and families should have applied by 30 June 2021. However, even though the main deadline has passed, this is still possible.**
- ❑ They will need support, some of which will include children who become cared for or who are in receipt of social care support.
- ❑ In addition, children and families who have been granted pre-settled status may need support converting this to settled status at the appropriate time.

2. LA Duty

NCC has a statutory duty to identify all eligible cared for children and care leavers, for the EU Settlement Scheme.

The duty also includes the need to:

- ❑ Identify **adequately trained resource(s)** to manage and make applications.
- ❑ **Identify other eligible children** (including children in receipt of care and support).
- ❑ Identify **key signposting** responsibilities and put plans in place to ensure this support takes place.
- ❑ Keep an **adequate record** of each application made, including the status granted, in case the Home Office needs to authenticate you or the child to discuss the application.
- ❑ **Record plans** for monitoring the child's status, including future actions with deadlines, where the child is granted pre-settled status to apply to convert this to settled status at the appropriate time.

4. Points of identification

- ❑ **Practitioners** should be exploring information to establish children and families nationality/immigration status at the earliest opportunity (such as when the family is first referred for services) and be confident to provide an explanation why it is being asked for.
- ❑ **Conference chairs and reviewing officers** should routinely establish/confirm nationality/immigration status of children and families.
- ❑ The **legal gateway panel** should be mindful of and clarify any immigration issues/actions required for a child that may relate to the EU Settlement Scheme.
- ❑ Any **permanence planning meeting** should include the identification of the most secure immigration status for the child (although citizenship might be more appropriate rather than EU Settlement Scheme for some).

3. Identification

- ❑ All practitioners are responsible for identifying eligible children they are working with.
- ❑ Practitioners and managers should refer to the [EU Settlement Scheme: EU, other EEA and Swiss citizens and their family members' guidance](#) to assist with identifying which children are eligible to apply.