

Hatherley Infant School



Early Help Offer

We want to ensure your needs are met. If you would like this document in any other format, please contact us:

admin@hatherley-inf.gloucs.sch.uk

All staff at Hatherley Infant School recognise that the welfare of each child is paramount and take seriously the responsibility to safeguard and promote the welfare of the children and young people in their care. Please also refer to the school Safeguarding Policy.

Definition: “Providing early help is more effective in promoting the welfare of children than reacting later. Early help means providing support as soon as a problem emerges, at any point in a child’s life, from foundation years through to teenage years”

Working Together to Safeguard children, DfE, March 2015

At Hatherley Infant School, we understand just how complicated family life can be. From time to time there may be situations where you need extra help and support.

If you feel we could support you in any way at home, please come and talk to us. We have an Early Help Offer in place and there are many ways we can support you and your family.

The school has no pre-prescribed criteria for supporting children and families. Each situation is assessed according to needs and a bespoke programme put in place for that child and/or family.

School Indicators for Children or Families That May Require Early Help

Indicator	Indicator	Indicator	Indicator
Low Parenting Skills	Poor Diet - Obesity, Malnourished	Low Income or Poverty	Limited Community Integration
Substance/Alcohol Abuse	Young Carer	Breakdown in family relationships	Transport
Domestic Abuse	Breakdown in community relationships	Isolation	Special Educational Needs (refer to Local and School offer)
Child Mental Health	Adult Mental Health	Disability of a Child	Disability of an Adult
Bereavement	Changes in Behaviour and Risk of Exclusion	Poor Attendance and Punctuality	Child Unaware of How to Keep Themselves Safe Online
Child Unaware of Danger and How to Keep Themselves Safe	Child Demonstrates Sexualised Behaviours	Frequent House or School Moves	Cleanliness and Hygiene
Extremist views			

The above list provides examples of areas where, without intervention a family may break down or a child may be put a risk of neglect, emotional, physical or sexual harm. This also includes the risk of extremism.

Involvement of Families

The school will always involve the family in all Early Help strategies and most will only be put in place with their permission. The school will aim to work with families in a supportive, non-judgemental way so that trust is built up and the best possible outcomes achieved.

Staff are trained in recognising the signs of Child Abuse and Extremism and are committed to and know the benefit of Early Help as a way of supporting families and young people before their needs become acute and Social Care or other specialist intervention may be necessary.

The school has a range of robust safeguarding procedures in place which puts the safety and protection of children at the heart of any decisions. The school’s safeguarding team is made up of the following school personnel:

- Designated Safeguarding Lead (DSL) – Mrs K Rama
- Deputy Designated Safeguarding Lead (DDSL) – Mrs J Gardener
- Senior Leadership Team Members with Safeguarding/Child Protection Training – Mrs F Briggs, Mrs P Walker

There are occasions, however, when the school’s safeguarding team or member of school staff may believe that a child may be at immediate risk of significant harm and that by informing the parents/carers of the concern may put the child at further risk. In these cases the school will implement section 47 procedures. This will involve an immediate referral to social care without the parents/carers knowledge.

Reporting Concerns

If any member of school suspects that a child may be at risk of harm or who has been harmed they will report the incident through the Child Protection Concern form. The Concern Sheet is given to the DSL, DDSL or member of the SLT immediately. If a member of staff believes that a child is at risk of or has been subjected to significant harm then this must be reported immediately in person to either the school’s DSL or one of the DDSLs.

The primary aim of the school’s Early Help systems is to try to intervene early with families before it gets to the stage when a child may be at risk of harm.

Early Help

The school has divided its Early Help Offer into 4 areas: Universal Support is for all and is what all children and families would normally receive, Community Support is for a child or family who may need some extra support, Specific Support is for children and families who need specialist support and Acute is where a child or their family need a high level of support to prevent harm.

Universal Support	Community Support	Specialist Support	Acute Support
Family Friends School Staff Governors After School Clubs Community Clubs (i.e. sports, arts etc.)	Family Support Worker SENCO School Safeguarding Team School E-Safety Policy Police Community Support Officers (PCSOs) Police GP Health Visitor Midwife School Nurse Family Information Service GloSFamilies directory Food Bank School Staff LA SEN Team LA Transport Team Churches and Religious Leaders Green Square Housing Landlords Young Carers Citizens Advice Bureau	Gloucestershire Safeguarding Children Board Early Help Team including Families First Team Social Care Parenting Courses (Webster Stratton, Triple P) Paediatrician Counselling Play/Sand Therapy Children and Young People’s Services (CYPS) Education, Performance and Inclusion Team (EPI) Physiotherapist Green Square Family Endowment Fund Keep Safe Work Occupational Therapist Winstons Wish (SWITCH Programme) Educational Psychologist Cruse Bereavement Care The Samaritans	Social Care - Child Protection (CP), Child in Need (CIN) School Safeguarding Team Social Worker Police - Police Protection Order (PPO) Courts - Care Proceedings Counselling

	<p>Job Centre</p> <p>Interpreter</p> <p>Education Performance and Inclusion Team (EPI)</p> <p>Children's Centre</p> <p>Communication with Previous Settings</p>	<p>Compassionate Friends</p> <p>Gloucestershire Domestic Abuse Support Service (GDASS)</p> <p>Freedom Programme</p> <p>Splitz</p> <p>Independence Trust</p> <p>Gloucestershire Drugs and Alcohol Support (GDAS)</p> <p>NSPCC</p> <p>Child Online Protections and Exploitation Centre (CEOP)</p> <p>Channel Programme</p>	
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Early Help Offer – Some Useful Contacts:

Gloucestershire Family Information Service (FIS)	<p>This is a universal source of help for all families in Gloucestershire. The advisors working for this service give impartial information on childcare, finances, parenting and education.</p> <p>Contact the FIS by emailing: familyinfo@gloucestershire.gov.uk or telephone: (0800) 542 0202 or (01452) 427362. The website is www.glosfamilies.org</p>
GSCB (Gloucestershire Safeguarding Children's Board) website	<p>http://www.gscb.org.uk</p> <p>Important information for parents and professionals across Gloucestershire in relation to keeping children safe and avenues of support including early help options.</p>
E-Safety	<p>E-safety is part of our ongoing curriculum.</p> <p>PACE (parents against child exploitation) UK is a useful website to engage parents with e-safety issues. www.paceuk.info/</p> <p>Childnet Resources</p> <p>Think U Know</p>
Bullying (including cyber-bullying)/child death/suicide prevention.	<p>All Gloucestershire schools are committed to tackling bullying. We have a series of teaching resources produced by the Gloucestershire healthy living and learning team (www.ghll.org.uk) to support this (PinK Curriculum). In serious cases of bullying parents should contact the police; particularly if there are threats involved. In an emergency call 999. Other sources of help are http://www.bullying.co.uk</p>
Children with multiple needs (vulnerable) or multiple needs (complex) requiring multi-agency input or assessment.	<p>Within Gloucestershire Early Help Teams provide multi-agency support for children and families. A phone call to discuss a possible referral is helpful before making a written referral. Schools actively refer to when appropriate.</p>
Drug Concerns	<p>www.infobuzz.co.uk/ InfoBuzz provides individual targeted support around drugs & emotional health issues, development of personal and social skills, information and support around substance misuse.</p>
Mental Health Concerns	<p>Referral to school nurses may be appropriate</p> <p>Referral to CYPS (Gloucestershire's mental health services) via your own GP.</p> <p>CYPS Practitioner advice line (for professionals to call) tel: 01452 894272</p>
Child Sexual Exploitation (CSE)	<p>CSE screening tool (can be located on the GCSB website, see above). This should be completed if CSE suspected. Clear information about warning signs, the screening tool</p>

	and Gloucestershire's multi-agency protocol for safeguarding children at risk of CSE are at www.gscb.org
Domestic Violence	The GCSB (Gloucestershire Safeguarding Children's Board) have published a Domestic Abuse pathway for educational settings which is on the GSCB website. Gloucestershire Domestic Abuse Support Service (GDASS) www.gdass.org.uk
Teenage relationship abuse	Please see comment about the Domestic abuse pathway for educational settings above.
Fabricated and induced illness (FII)	http://www.nhs.uk/Conditions/Fabricated-or-induced-illness for information on behaviours and motivation behind FII. Any professionals suspecting FII must involve the Police, Social Services and follow the child protection procedures outlined in this policy.
Faith Abuse	www.gov.uk/government/publications/national-action-plan-to-tackle-child-abuse-linked-to-faith-or-belief for copy of DfE document 'National action plan to tackle child abuse linked to faith or belief'.
Female Genital Mutilation (FGM)	http://www.nhs.uk/Conditions/female-genital-mutilation for NHS information and sign of FGM. Any suspicion of FGM should be reported to the Police and Social Care.
Forced Marriage	SPOC (Single Point of Contact) for Forced Marriage UK Forced Marriage Unit fmu@fco.gov.uk http://www.glostakeastand.com/
Gangs and youth violence	Contact the Avenger Task Force (Gloucestershire Police tel: 101) A task force set up to identify potential gang members as vulnerable individuals and potential victims and aims to help them. https://www.safergloucester.co.uk/
Gender-based violence/violence against women and girls (VAWG)	www.gov.uk – home office policy document
Honour based violence (HBV)	The police have made it a high priority to help communities fight back to tackle both honour based violence and hate crime, The 'Honour Network Helpline': 0800 5999247
Mental Health	CYPS (Gloucestershire's mental health services)
Private fostering	http://www.gloucestershire.gov.uk/privatefostering Gloucestershire County Council website provides information on private fostering. Refer to Gloucestershire Children and Families Helpdesk on 01452 426565 or Gloucestershire's Private Fostering Social Worker 01452 427874
Radicalisation	Gloucestershire Constabulary: 101 and Jane Bee (LADO) Anti-terrorist Hotline: 0800 789 321

If you have some concerns a good starting point is to come and talk to the Family Support Worker, Mrs Sam Buckley or the school Inclusion Lead, Mrs Kali Rama, who can on your behalf, make a referral. If your child is pre-school age GPs, health visitors and children's centre staff all know about the Early Help Service and can help make a referral if that is what you think would help.

Our approach is to work closely with families and to hold a Team Around The Child (TAC) or Team Around the Family meeting so that everyone is clear about what we are trying to achieve and who is doing what.

Before we can start to work with your family we need your consent. Our service is confidential and you will be asked for permission for us to speak with other relevant professionals on your behalf.