

Early Help Offer

Tewkesbury C of E Primary School



Approved by:	Full Governing Body
Last reviewed on:	April 2025
Next review due by:	April 2027

Early Help at Tewkesbury C of E Primary School

At Tewkesbury C of E Primary School, we believe that every child should have the opportunity to “shine like stars in the sky” (Philippians 2:15) and fulfil their potential. However, we recognise that some children and families may face challenges that require extra support. As part of our commitment to “Learn together, Shine forever,” we work closely with families and external agencies to provide Early Help - ensuring that children receive the right support at the right time.

Early Help is about identifying and addressing difficulties as soon as they emerge, at any stage of a child’s life - from early childhood through to adolescence. By offering proactive support, we aim to prevent challenges from escalating and to promote the well-being of children and their families.

Our Approach to Early Help

We understand that parents and carers are the first educators of their children and we strive to work in partnership to ensure that every child is healthy, safe and able to thrive. Our school provides a welcoming and accessible environment where parents and carers can seek guidance or share any concerns they may have.

We collaborate with a range of professional agencies, including:

- The Advisory Teaching Service
- Educational Psychologists
- The School Nursing Team
- Children and Young People’s Services (CYPS)
- Charities and Children’s Centres
- Young Carers
- Families First Plus
- Virtual School
- Adult Education and Social Care

Our Pastoral Team plays a key role in offering targeted support, working with children and families to provide guidance, signposting to external services and offering a listening ear in times of need.

How to Access Support

We operate an open-door policy, encouraging parents and carers to speak with us at the earliest opportunity if they have concerns about their child. Our staff are always available in a pastoral capacity and our Pastoral Lead is trained and experienced in providing family support.

If you need advice or support, you can:

- Speak directly to your child’s Class Teacher
- Request a phone call or appointment with the Safeguarding Lead
- Contact the School Office to arrange a meeting

When additional support is needed, we can coordinate a Team Around the Family (TAF) meeting, bringing together the right professionals to develop a tailored plan of support. Families will have a Lead Professional who works closely with them, ensuring that the right help is in place.

Support for Children with Additional Needs

Our SENDCo and Pastoral Team work together to ensure that children with special educational needs and disabilities (SEND) receive the appropriate support and adjustments to help them flourish. We implement the My Plan, My Plan+, and Education, Health and Care Plans (EHCPs) to provide a holistic and structured approach to supporting children with additional needs.

Promoting Well-being and Safety

Through our SCARF curriculum, we equip children with the knowledge and skills they need to stay safe, healthy, and resilient. This includes:

- Mental health and emotional well-being
- Healthy relationships and body image
- E-Safety and online awareness
- Anti-bullying education

We also work with external organisations, such as the NSPCC, to provide assemblies and workshops for children and families on key safeguarding topics.

Teaching Safe and Responsible Choices

As a Church of England school, we promote Christian values alongside British values, including democracy, the rule of law, respect, tolerance, and individual liberty. Through our curriculum and assemblies, we teach children to be discerning about information online and to recognise the risks of radicalisation and extremist influences.

While cases of radicalisation in school-age children are rare, we take a proactive approach in educating our pupils about online safety, critical thinking and personal responsibility.

At Tewkesbury C of E Primary School, we are committed to nurturing every child so they can “shine like stars in the sky” and grow into confident, compassionate, and responsible individuals.

Support Services available in Gloucestershire

Universal source of help for all families in Gloucestershire: Gloucestershire Family Information Service (FIS) FIS also have a website www.glosfamiliesdirectory.org.uk/kbs/gloucs/glosfamilies/homepage which has a wealth of local information for parents, carers and professionals.	Gloucestershire Family Information Service (FIS) advisors give impartial information on childcare, finances, parenting and education. FIS are a useful source of information for parents and professionals. They support families, children and young people aged 0-19 years of age (25 for young people with additional needs) and professionals working with these families. They can help link parents up with other organisations that might be able to help or provide the information themselves e.g. parents could ask them about holiday clubs in their area. On the Glosfamilies directory home page you will see three areas. The Family Information Directory, which details information on Family Support & Advice, childcare, education and things to do in your local community. The local offer, which is a central source of information for Children and Young People aged 0-25 with Special Education Needs and Disabilities (SEND) and their families in Gloucestershire. And finally an area for professionals which provides a centralised and up to date point of reference. This area has been designed to support work with families.
GSCB (Gloucestershire Safeguarding Children's Board)	http://www.gscb.org.uk Important information for parents and professionals across Gloucestershire in relation to keeping children safe and avenues of support including early help options.
E-safety	Advice for parents/carers Whether you want to set up parental controls, adjust privacy settings or get advice on social networks, experts from the O2 & NSPCC are here to help. TEL: 0808 8005002 NSPCC - https://www.nspcc.org.uk/ Workshops are arranged in school with the NSPCC and O2 to help parents with these issues.

Bullying (including cyber-bullying)/child death/suicide prevention	In serious cases of bullying outside school, parents should contact the police; particularly if threats have been made. In an emergency call 999. Other sources of help and advice are: www.gscb.org (Gloucestershire Safeguarding children's board) Gloucestershire Healthy Living and Learning team provide alerts and resources in relation to supporting young people being bullied. www.onyourmindglos.nhs.uk A Gloucestershire website which also covers bullying as a topic and where to go for help. NSPCC Childline Help for children and young people Tel: 0800 1111 Help for adults concerned about a child Tel: 0808 800 5000 Worried about a child? Contact NSPCC trained helpline counsellors for 24/7 help, advice and support.help@nspcc.org.uk
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Early Help / Families First Plus Team	Gloucestershire Early Help Partnership (co-ordinated by Families First Plus) provide multi-agency support for children and families. Parents must consent to a referral. Referrals go to the Early Help Partnership. The referral meeting is a multi-agency discussion to decide the best way forward: Early Help Partnership/Families First Plus:		
	Gloucester	gloucesterearlyhelp@gloucestershire.gov.uk	01452 - 328071
	Stroud	stroudearlyhelp@gloucestershire.gov.uk	01452 - 328130
	Tewkesbury	tewkesburyearlyhelp@gloucestershire.gov.uk	01452 - 328 250
	Cotswold	cotswoldearlyhelp@gloucestershire.gov.uk	01452 - 328101
	Forest of Dean	forestofdeanearlyhelp@gloucestershire.gov.uk	01452 - 328048
	Cheltenham	cheltenhamearlyhelp@gloucestershire.gov.uk	01452 - 328160
	These teams are made up of the following professionals Early Help co-ordinators; Community Social Worker and Family Support Workers. They all work together from one base so they can recognise and respond to local needs and act as a focal point for co-ordinating support for vulnerable children, young people and their families. Support provided includes: Support for school and community based lead professionals working with children and families; Collaboration with social care referrals that do not meet their thresholds, to co-ordinate support within the community; Work in partnership to support children with special educational needs in school; Advice and guidance from a social work perspective on a 'discussion in principle basis';		

	Signpost children with disabilities and their families to access activities and meet specific needs; Advice and guidance to lead professionals and the provision of high quality parenting and family support services to families.
Youth Support Team (YST):	The Youth Support Team provide a range of services for vulnerable young people aged between 10 - 19 (and up to 25 for young people with special needs), including: • Youth offending • Children in Care • Care leaver's support services (for those aged 16+) • Early intervention and prevention service for 10 - 19 year olds • Support for young people with learning difficulties and/or disabilities • Positive activities for young people with disabilities • Support with housing and homelessness • Help and support to tackle substance misuse problems and other health issues • Support into education, training and employment • Support for teenage parents For General Enquiries: Tel: 01452 - 415707 - Email: info.glos@prospects.co.uk
Mental Health	http://www.onyourmindglos.nhs.uk – is a newly launched website as part of the Future in Mind Programme. This website provides young people, parents and professionals with information and advice with mental health issues and where to go for help. • Referral to the SNT (school nursing team) may be appropriate. • Referral to CAMHS (Gloucestershire's children and young person mental health services) via your own GP or school. • Practitioner advice line (for professionals to call) Tel: 01452 894272, between Monday to Friday, 9 am to 5 pm

	Teens in Crisis is an organisation that will offer support to young people from the age of 10. Parents/carers and professionals can refer in to their service or look at their website for further information and support. They work closely with CAMHS.
Drugs Concerns and Substance Misuse	www.infobuzz.co.uk Info Buzz provides individual targeted support around drugs & emotional health issues, development of personal & social skills, and information & support around substance misuse. Drugs education is covered in the school curriculum.
Child Sexual Exploitation (CSE)	Clear information about Warning signs, the screening tool and Gloucestershire's multi-agency protocol for safeguarding children at risk of CSE are at http://www.gscb.org.uk Referrals should be made to Gloucestershire social care and the Gloucestershire Police. All referrals to go to the Central Referral Unit 01242 247999 Further information: National Working Group (Network tackling Child Sexual Exploitation) https://www.nwgnetwork.org/ And PACE UK (Parents Against Child Sexual Exploitation) www.paceuk.info

Domestic Abuse /Violence	The GSCB (Gloucestershire Safeguarding Children's board) have published a Domestic Abuse pathway for educational settings which is on the GSCB website. If a child or young person is suspected of living at home with a domestically abusive parent or if a young person has domestic abuse in their own relationship then the usual procedures should be followed and a referral made to the children's helpdesk on 01452 426565. The response will vary according to the age of the young person so that the appropriate agencies are involved. Gloucestershire Domestic Abuse Support Service (GDASS) www.gdass.org.uk MARAC Gloucestershire Constabulary: Multi Agency Risk Assessment Conferences (MARACs) prioritise the safety of victims who have been risk assessed at high or very high risk of harm. The MARAC is an integral part of the Specialist Domestic Violence Court Programme, and information will be shared between the MARAC and the Courts, in high and very high risk cases, as part of the process of risk management. Gloucestershire Unborn Baby Protocol: Research indicates that young babies are particularly vulnerable to abuse but that work carried out in the antenatal period can help minimise harm if there is an early assessment, intervention and support. Working Together (2015) specifically identifies the need of the Unborn Child. Professionals should read and act upon the unborn baby protocol if there is suspected domestic violence and a pregnancy. The unborn baby protocol can be found at http://www.gscb.org.uk
Fabricated and induced illness (FII)	http://www.nhs.uk/mental-health/conditions/fabricated-or-induced-illness/overview 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 the school Safeguarding (Child Protection) Policy.
Faith abuse	http://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.' Judith Knight; Diocese of Gloucester Head of Safeguarding/faith abuse contact: jknight@glosdioc.org.uk.

Female genital mutilation (FGM)	Female Genital Mutilation (FGM) comprises all procedures involving partial or total removal or the external female genitalia. FGM is illegal in the UK and as of October 2015 mandatory reporting commenced. If education staff or other professionals discover that an act FGM appears to have been carried out on a girl under 18 years old there is a statutory duty for them PERSONALLY to report it to the police. For NHS information and signs of FGM: http://www.nhs.uk/Conditions/female-genital-mutilation Anyone with concerns about FGM should follow the school safeguarding procedures. The Children and Families Worker, has completed the online home office training, 'Female Genital Mutilation: Recognising and Preventing FGM'.
Forced Marriage	SPOC (Single Point of Contact) for Forced Marriage in Gloucestershire UK Forced Marriage Unit fmua@fco.gov.uk Tel: 020 7008 0151 For information on Forced Marriage: www.gov.uk/guidance/forced-marriage Please see 'Multi-Agency Practice Guidelines- Handling cases of Forced Marriage' for more information and detail https://www.gov.uk/forcedmarriage. Prevention Freedom Charity- Aneeta Prem 'But it's not fair' book. A book for teenagers looking at forced marriage from the point of view of school friends of the girl who went to India and didn't come back. This book promotes discussion. The Freedom Charity (UK charity) has a helpline, text facility and app which can be downloaded to help to provide support and protection for victims of abuse. They can be contacted on Tel: 0845 607 0133 or text 4freedom to 88802 or go to the website to download the app from the app page. www.freedomcharity.org.uk

Gender-based violence/violence against women and girls (WAWG)	http://www.gov.uk– home office policy document, ‘Ending violence against women and girls in the UK’ (June 2014). FGM (Female Genital Mutilation) is violence against women and girls. Hope House SARC (Sexual Assault Referral Centre): Tel:01452 – 754390 (out of hours: 0845 09012) GRASAC (Gloucestershire Rape and Sexual Abuse Centre): Tel:01452 - 526770 There’s a 24-hour answerphone service and they’ll respond within 24 hours. Or you can use the confidential and anonymous email support service at support@glosrasac.org.uk. The support workers are all women, who are specially trained to work with survivors of sexual violence. They will work with you at your own pace, explaining your options and your rights – and most Importantly of all they will always listen to you and believe you. GRASAC also have really helpful booklets: a self-help guide, a guide for families or loved ones and a guide if you have learning needs. You can access them on the ghll.org.uk/partnership-projects/on-your-mind website or contact GRASAC for a free copy
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Preventing Radicalisation and Extremism/HATE (PREVENT duty) HM Government PREVENT duty: As of 1 July 2015 duty in the Counter-terrorism and security act 2015 for specified authorities (including all schools) to have due regard to the need to prevent people being drawn in to terrorism.	Gloucestershire Safeguarding Children's Board www.gscb.org. There is a new GSCB PREVENT referral pathway www.educateagainsthate.com is the government website providing information and practical advice for parents, teachers and schools leaders on protecting children from radicalisation and extremism. Anti-Terrorist Hotline: Tel 0800 - 789 321 The 'Advice on the Prevent duty' written by the Department for Education explains what governors and staff can do if they have any concerns relating to extremism. The Department for Education has also set up a telephone helpline (020 7340 7264) to enable people to raise concerns directly. Concerns can also be raised by email to counter.extremism@education.gsi.gov.uk. If you see extremist or terrorist content online please report it via: https://www.gov.uk/report-terrorism
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 Help line': 0800 5 999 247

Private fostering	http://www.gloucestershire.gov.uk/privatefostering Gloucestershire County council website information on private fostering. Refer to Gloucestershire Children & Families Helpdesk – Tel: 01452 426565 or Gloucestershire Private Fostering Social Worker – Tel: 01452 427874 A private fostering arrangement is essentially one that is made without the involvement of a local authority. Private fostering is defined in the Children Act 1989 and occurs when a child or young person under the age of 16 (under 18 if disabled) is cared for and provided with accommodation, for 28 days or more, by someone who is not their parent, guardian or a close relative. (Close relatives are defined as; step-parents, siblings, brothers or sisters of parents or grandparents).
Sexting	If you have concerns or require information about sexting, support and advice is available on the NSPCC website https://www.nspcc.org.uk/keeping-children-safe/online-safety/sexting-sending-nudes/ (NSPCC website).
Trafficking	Is a serious crime which must be reported through the Modern Slavery Helpline 08000 121 700 and the Gloucestershire Police. Trafficking can include a young person being moved across the same street to a different address for the purpose of exploitation. It doesn't have to include people, children or young people being moved great distances.

Children who run away (missing persons/missing children)	Tel: 101 (Gloucestershire Police). - GSCB Missing Children Protocol - http://www.gscb.org.uk Gloucestershire's protocol on partnership working when children and young people run away and go missing from home or care. ASTRA (Gloucestershire): The ASTRA (Alternative Solutions To Running Away) has the primary aim of reducing the incidence of persistent running away across Gloucestershire. The project provides support, advice and information to young people up to eighteen years old who have run away. This might be from a family home, foster home or from a residential unit. ASTRA provides support after the event to enable a young person to address the causes of running away. The ASTRA project offers young people help and the support required in order to find Alternative Solutions To Running Away. Freephone Tel: 0800 389 4992 EXCLUSIVELY for young people who have run away and have no money. All other callers are asked to use the 'ordinary' number Tel: 01452 - 541599
CME (Children missing education)	For anyone concerned that a child is missing from education (CME) can make a referral to the Education Entitlement and Inclusion team (EEI) at Gloucestershire County Council. Tel: 01452 328774/426015. Children Missing Education (CME) refers to 'any child of compulsory school age who is not registered at any formally approved education activity e.g. school, alternative provision, elective home education, and has been out of education provision for at least 4 weeks'. CME also includes those children who are missing (family whereabouts unknown), and are usually children who are registered on a school roll / alternative provision. This might be a child who is not at their last known address and either: has not taken up an allocated school place as expected, or has 10 or more days of continuous absence from school without explanation, or left school suddenly and the destination is unknown. It is the responsibility of the Education Entitlement and Inclusion team, on behalf of the Local Authority (LA), to: Collate information on all reported cases of CME of statutory school aged children in Gloucestershire maintained schools, academies, free schools, alternative provision academies and Alternative Provision Schools (APS). The EEI Team will also liaise with partner agencies and other LAs and schools across Britain to

	track pupils who may be missing education and ensure each child missing education is offered full time education within two weeks of the date the LA was informed.
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