Prestbury St Mary's Federation

Offer of Early Help
2022-2023

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 the foundation years through to the teenage years.

Effective early help relies upon local organisations and agencies working together to:

- *identify children and families who would benefit from early help*
- *undertake an assessment of the need for early help*
- *provide targeted early help services to address the assessed needs of a child and their family which focuses on activity to improve the outcomes for the child.*

(Working Together to safeguard Children, 2018)

At Prestbury St Mary's Federation, we understand that family life can have its complications. There may be situations where parents/ carers need extra support. The school has an 'Offer of Early Help' and there are many ways in which support can be given.

Listed below are some of the things that our school can offer:

Time to listen to children's concerns

We have teachers and Teaching Assistants in each class, a SENDCo and Inclusion Manger and ELSA Pastoral Support Teaching Assistants in both the Infant and Junior Schools. These adults who work closely with the children are available to talk to pupils when they feel they have a problem they would like to share. Children can refer themselves through our worry boxes which are situated in central areas. The ELSA Pastoral TAs have designated time to meet, listen to and explore ways to help children to talk about their worries and manage their feelings in positive ways.

Time to listen to families

Sometimes parents/ carers may need to either share information, have a difficult situation they need to share with us or simply want to talk through their concerns about their child.
The Executive Head, Deputy Head and the Federation SENDCo are available to speak to in-person or by telephone, if and when parents need to talk. Not only will our families be listened to but we are also able to signpost parents to a number of partners in the community who can draw in help to ensure that the children and families are getting the right support at the right time:

- Early Help Coordinators can offer advice, guidance and support to both teachers and parents working with children including those with SEND.
- Community social workers offer support to practitioners and families who share concerns about a child/ children.
- The Family Information Service offer information and advice to support families and children including parenting programmes to help with a wide range of parenting challenges.
- There are a number of support agencies available that we can access or sign-post parents to if experiencing difficulties at home.
- There are also agencies that parents/ carers can contact independently if preferred,who might be able to help and provide support for the family.

See overleaf for self-referral or speak to the Executive Head Teacher, Executive Deputy Head Teacher or SENDCo and Inclusion Manager, for further advice or information.

Please find contact details below for agencies within Gloucestershire.

Family Information Service

The Family Information Service offers a wide range of information and impartial advice to support families, children and young people from 0 – 19 years of age (25 years for young people with additional needs)

- Family Support
- Parenting programmes including Triple P; Solihull; Webster Stratton; You, Me and Mum
- The Local Offer (information on services for children and young people with SEND)
- The Key Disability Register
- Finding and choosing childcare (including day nurseries, pre-schools, holiday schemes)
- Childcare funding (including 2,3 and 4 year old funding)
- Things to do

Telephone: 01452 427362

E-mail: familyinfo@gloucestershire.gov.uk

Facebook: www.facebook.com/Family-Information-Service-Gloucestershire

Twitter: www.twitter.com/GlosFIS

CCP – County Community Projects

CCP is based in Cheltenham and aims to support individuals and families in a variety of ways. Their website is https://www.ccp.org.uk/ and contact details are 0300 365 8999

Their purpose is to improve the lives of children, young people, families and vulnerable adults who have multiple and complex needs. Our priority is to those who have been excluded or have excluded themselves from mainstream services.
They work in partnership with the person and other agencies to create a sustainable and portable package of care and support networks, which enable them to realise their aspirations and reach their full potential in life.
Their mission is to:

- Promote and support healthy living
- Help and maintain a safe and stable home environment
- Promote respect and positive social behaviour
- Encourage personal economic sustainability
- Provide both crisis and preventative services

They can provide services such as Advocacy, Family Support, Advice and Inclusion.

Domestic Abuse

Support for parents/ carers who are affected by domestic abuse, or who know someone that is can be accessed as follows:

Call the police (999 in an emergency or 101 for a non-emergency situation)

Contact **GDASS** – Gloucestershire Domestic Abuse Support Service by **Phone:** 01452 726 570 or **Email:** support@gdass.org.uk
GDASS can help you and your child stay safe in your own home

- GDASS can help you access specialist legal advice.
- GDASS can help you with other agencies (eg Benefits and Housing)
- GDASS can help you find a place of safety if you cannot stay at home.
- GDASS can help you and your children move on.

National Domestic Violence helpline 0808 2000 247
National Centre for Domestic Abuse 0844 8044 999
Men's Advice Line 0808 801 0327
CARP (Centre Allocation and Referral Point) 0845 602 9035 which will provide advice for victims of domestic abuse.

School Nursing
School Nursing provide a public health nursing service for children of school age. They visit children, young people and families at schools, in their homes and in other community settings helping them to understand how to make decisions and choices about their health through health promotion, protection and disease.
Contact a member of the team on:
0300 421 8514
cheltlocal.snt@ghc.nhs.uk

Esafety
Technology is constantly changing as is how we keep children safe whilst still enjoying the many benefits of the internet. The links below give parents/ carers helpful advice on this subject. Please also see the school's Esafety policy.
http://www.childnet.com/resources

http://thinkuknow.co.uk