

Heart of the Forest Community Special School
Our Early Help Offer

The purpose of Early Help is to ensure that any challenges experienced by children and their families are identified early and responded to effectively. The aim is to work together to prevent those challenges from escalating and becoming more acute. As part of our Early Help it is essential that we work collaboratively with other agencies and have an understanding of the routes to receive help as quickly as possible. In the first instance staff should discuss early help requirements with our designated safeguarding leads. They will support staff to liaise with other agencies and to set up inter agency meetings where appropriate.

Our Early Help Offer is an approach, not a service. It respects every family's right to access information to help to manage their own lives successfully, whilst guiding them to seek support from appropriate sources. Help can then be agreed as soon as concerns start to emerge. The 'Offer' is there to support all children and their families. It includes both universal and targeted/specialist services.

Our school will use the graduated pathway of Early Help and support along with Gloucestershire levels of intervention guidance to keep children safe and to help determine the level of support required for children and families. We will intervene as early as possible to prevent families and pupils reaching crisis point and the need for statutory intervention.

We will also seek advice from our Early Help Coordinator, community social worker and refer to Early Help or social care when appropriate.

To access information on Gloucestershire's offer of Early Help visit www.glosfamiliesdirectory.org.uk.

The school's safeguarding policy should be read in conjunction with our offer of Early Help.

Early Help in Gloucestershire

"Early help is about Children, Young People and Families getting the right help at the right time, before issues get worse. We want all of our children and young people, including those with Special Educational Needs and Disabilities to achieve the best possible outcomes and to receive the support they need when they need it most. We now have one integrated, holistic Graduated Pathway of Early Help and Support.

The purpose of early help is to prevent issues and problems becoming serious and harmful to the child, young person, family and community. When children and families need this extra support, they need it quickly. Children and families are entitled to early help if and when they need it. It may be provided through an increase in the levels of universal services, or services provided or commissioned in localities."

Reference "Early Help in Gloucestershire" - Gloucestershire County Council.

Family Liaison Worker	The role of Family Liaison Worker is pivotal to the success of our Early Help Offer. All families are encouraged to engage with events such as coffee mornings, information sharing meetings, and training courses. Lizzie can be contacted for advice, information or support. She can meet with families in
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	<p>school or can visit the home. She will attend meetings and co-ordinate other services who are asked to help.</p>
Curriculum	<p>Through our curriculum the children are taught Personal, Social, Health and Citizenship Education (PSHCE), Sex and Relationships Education (SRE) and Spiritual, Moral, Social and Social Development (SMSC) through use of the following resources: The Pink Curriculum from Gloucestershire Healthy Living and Learning (GHLL) and So Safe.</p> <p>Children have sex education lessons - focusing on puberty, changes and personal hygiene. Along with lessons in regarding reproduction and birth.</p> <p>Gender, identity and tolerance: preventing homophobic and transphobic bullying; preventing bullying of children from different types of family e.g. same sex parents; avoiding anti-gay derogatory language. Understanding and acceptance of others different than us, including those with different religions and beliefs.</p> <p>Through our PSHCE curriculum and visits from our partner agencies we address issues such as alcohol, smoking and illegal drugs.</p> <p>Keeping Safe - we teach children about online safety. We also make use of outside visitors such as PCSO's to deliver sessions to the whole school on online safety. We can access sessions at the Skill Zone to learn how to keep safe in different situations.</p> <p>Relationships - How to make and maintain friendships; family relationships; different types of family.</p> <p>Healthy Living - taking responsibility for managing your own health; importance of sleep; the main components of a healthy lifestyle (diet, exercise and well-being).</p> <p>Some children also complete the Online Pupil Survey, through GHLL, which is then analysed and then action taken as a response to arising needs.</p>
CAMH Learning Disability Community Nurse	<p>The Children and Adolescent Mental Health Service are a specialist emotional and mental health service for children and young people. We can make referrals to this service to help our children and young people who are feeling stressed, anxious, down or angry and struggle to cope with their lives. They can help with other problems such as developmental disorders, eating disorders, attachment difficulties and self-harm. Further details can be found on their website 2gether.nhs.uk and they have a Practitioner Advice Line 01452 894272</p>
Children missing from education - Missing children	<p>As part of our Early Help Offer we contact families to find out why a pupil is not in school on a daily basis. We would inform Gloucestershire constabulary reporting the child as a missing person if we had concerns. We are required to inform the Local Authority if a pupil has been missing from school for 10 days with no explanation. As part of our Early Help Offer we would inform them as soon as we felt worried about the pupil's well-being and we would make every effort to contact extended families and siblings' schools for example to ascertain that the pupil is safe.</p>
E-Safety	<p>E-safety is a key part of the ongoing (PSHCE/SMSC/SRE) curriculum. PACE (parents against child exploitation) UK is a useful website to engage parents with e-safety issues. www.paceuk.info/ Think u know www.thinkuknow.co.uk/ NSPCC www.nspc.org.uk Safety Net Kids www.safetynetkids.org.uk</p>

	Pupils are taught how to stay safe online and what to do if they are worried.
Bullying	All incidences of bullying, including cyber-bullying and prejudice-based bullying will be recorded and reported and will be managed through our behaviour and tackling-bullying procedures. www.onyourmindglos.nhs.uk is a Gloucestershire website which provides a range of information, including bullying and signposts where to go for help.
Domestic Abuse	If we believe that one of our pupils lives in a household where there is suspected domestic abuse it is our duty to refer to Social Care. There are MARAC (Multi agency risk assessment conference) procedures now that include schools. Operation Encompass is now in place in Gloucestershire whereby schools will be informed within 24 hours if the police have been called to a Domestic abuse incident. The worst cases are subject to daily updates and we will always be contacted within 48 hours of an incident. We will be invited to the MARAC meeting . There has been a law change now to include 16 and 17 year olds. As our early offer we commit to attending MARAC meetings and providing quality/relevant information.
Child Sexual Exploitation	All referrals now go to the central referral unit. We can phone 01242 276846 for any queries or 01242 247999 to refer. Referrals will also be made to the MASH 01452 426565 There is a CSE screening tool on the GSCE website that covers the indicators of CSE and there is a new protocol. We are able to involve parents in the screening if deemed appropriate - it is likely that parents will be equally concerned about their child's safety. We can however refer without parental consent. It is important to think about whether the young person is being exploited rather than thinking in terms of consent - a 16 year old can consent to sex but can still be sexually exploited by an older man. We help our pupils understand the risks of child sexual exploitation through the delivery of our Safeguarding Curriculum and through the theatre production 'Chelsea's Choice'. www.paceuk.info
Female Genital Mutilation	As our Early Help offer it is essential that we know what this is and understand the signs to look for. There is a useful leaflet produced by GSCE that outlines the different types of mutilation and talks about the practice. It usually happens to girls between 5-15 years old but it has been known to happen to babies and to older girls. It is cultural rather than religious and we should not refer to it as circumcision because this makes it sound like a medical procedure - it is not and is illegal. Our Designated Safeguarding Leads have undergone the online home office training. As part of our early help we must listen to the voice of the child - if they talk about going on an extended trip, to a special ceremony, or talk about something exciting happening and becoming a woman we must act quickly. It is imperative that we make the referral before the trip via the Children's Help Desk and the police on 101. Teachers have a duty to inform the police if they suspect that a girl is at risk or has been exposed to female genital mutilation. In an emergency we can contact the Police Lead on FGM.
Radicalisation	Schools are subject to a duty under section 26 of the Counter-terrorism and Security Act. (CTSA 2015)

	<p>Protecting children and young people from the risk of radicalisation is seen as part of the school's wider safeguarding duties, and is similar in nature to protecting children and young people from other forms of harm or abuse. Radicalisation refers to the process by which a person comes to support terrorism and forms of extremism. There is no single way of identifying an individual who is likely to be susceptible to an extremist ideology but the internet and the use of social media in particular has become a major factor in the radicalisation of young people.</p>
Prevent	<p>All schools are subject to a duty under section 26 of the Counter-Terrorism and Security Act 2015 and we have due regard to the need to prevent people from being drawn into terrorism. This duty is known as the Prevent Duty. As a part of this duty we need to assess the risk of our pupils being drawn into terrorism. If we believe that a child or young person in our care is at risk we must follow our local safeguarding procedures. We have filters in place to keep our pupils safe from terrorist and extremist material when accessing the internet and we teach our pupils about online safety.</p> <p>We conduct a Prevent Responsibilities Audit to make sure that we meet all requirements</p> <p>Channel is a programme which focuses on providing support at an early stage to children and young people who are identified as being vulnerable to being drawn into terrorism. It provides a mechanism for schools to make referrals. Engagement in the programme is voluntary. The Local Authority has 'Channel Panels' in place where individuals are assessed, consent is obtained and support is provided to the referred individual. If needed we will take part in Channel panels as part of our Early Help offer</p>
Honour Based Violence	<p>The police have made a high priority to help communities tackle this and hate crime. Honour Network Helpline 0800 5999247 Karma Nirvana offers support to victims of Forced Marriage and honour Based Violence. The 'Honour Network Help line': 0800 5999 247 Private</p>
Gender Based Violence/ against women and girls (VAWG)	<p>Violence Against Women and Girls VAWG is an equality and human rights issue. Violence against women is a violation of women's fundamental human rights:</p> <p>The right not to be treated in an inhuman and degrading way. The right to respect for private and family life (including the right to physical and psychological integrity). The right to life VAWG includes: domestic violence, forced marriage, honour-based violence, female genital mutilation, rape and sexual offences, prostitution, trafficking, child abuse and pornography.</p> <p>www.gov.uk/crime-justice-and-law/violence-against-women-and-girls</p> <p>Gloucestershire Rape and Sexual Abuse Centre: 01452 526770</p>
Forced Marriage	<p>A marriage in which one or both spouses do not (or in the case of some adults with support needs, cannot) consent to the marriage and duress involved. Duress can include physical, psychological, financial, sexual, emotional pressure. Single point of contact for Forced Marriage in Gloucestershire: Acting DI Jo Mecurio https://www.gov.uk/guidance/forced-marriage</p>

<p>Private Fostering</p>	<p>A private arrangement between a child's parent and the foster parents. Children are privately fostered if they live with someone for 28 days or more, or are placed with the intention that they will stay for 28 days or more. Private fostering applies to children under 16 years of age (or 18 if they are disabled) and doesn't include arrangements made between close relatives. A close relative is an aunt, uncle, step-parent, grandparent or sibling, but not a cousin, great aunt/uncle or a family friend. The law requires the private foster carer to notify the Local Authority of the agreement at least 6 weeks before the arrangement or within 48 hours of the child's arrival if it is an emergency placement. If our school becomes aware of a private fostering arrangement, we will contact the Children and Families Helpdesk (01452 426565) to ensure that the LA have been notified. http://www.gloucestershire.gov.uk/privatefostering https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/children-act-1989-private-fostering</p>
<p>Dangerous Drug Network - County Lines</p>	<p>We are aware of the risks of the so called Dangerous Drug Network (DDN) to our children and families, particularly those seen as vulnerable due to individual circumstances eg single parents, people who are drug or alcohol dependent. Concerns will be forward to DS Sarah Hume or the DDN helpline on the Gloucestershire Constabulary website.</p>
<p>Fabricated/ induced illness</p>	<p>There are three main ways of the carer fabricating or inducing illness in a child. These are not mutually exclusive and include: fabrication of signs and symptoms. This may include fabrication of past medical history, fabrication of signs and symptoms and falsification of hospital charts and records, and specimens of bodily fluids. This may also include falsification of letters and documents, induction of illness by a variety of measures http://www.nhs.uk/Conditions/Fabricated-or-induced-illness for information on behaviours and motivation behind FII. For information on behaviours and motivation visit www.nhs.uk/Conditions/fabricated-or-induced-illness https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/safeguarding-children-inwhomillness-is-fabricated-or-induced Any professionals suspecting FII must involve the Police, Social Services and follow the child protection procedures outlined in this policy.</p>
<p>Trafficking</p>	<p>Serious crime which must be reported to Gloucestershire LADO 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. Contact the Avenger Task Force at Gloucestershire Constabulary. https://www.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/418131/Preventing_youth_violence_and_gang_involvement_v3_March2015.</p>

