



EARLY HELP OFFER

What is Early Help?

Early Help means providing support as soon as a problem appears, to stop it from getting worse. This could be at any point in a child's life, from birth to the teenage years.

Anyone can provide early help – you don't need to be an expert professional. Early help is not about passing the issue on to an expert, but thinking about what is the best support you can offer.

At Chadsgrove School we recognise the challenges that families face in bringing up children and that there may be times when families need extra help and support. If this is the case families are encourage to talk to us.

Early Help may be appropriate if:

- A parent or carer is worried about their child's development
- A child's school identifies a worry or concern
- A family is vulnerable for example, as a result of relationship difficulties, substance misuse, health issues or debt
- There are concerns about a child attendance at school

The diagram below shows the range of needs at different levels. We use this graduated approach to make sure we provide the best support for different families' individual situations.



Providing early help to our pupils and families at Chadsgrove means we are more effective in promoting support as soon as we can.



Key Personnel

The Designated Safeguarding Lead (DSL) is: Deb Rattley

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The deputy DSL(s) is: Angela Macvie

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The assistant DSL(s) are: Rebecca Gayden and Rebecca Sabel

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The nominated safeguarding governor is: Lorraine Petersen

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The Head teacher is: Deb Rattley

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The Chair of Governors is: Lorraine Petersen

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The Early Help Offer at Chadsgrove

Everyone needs help at some time in their lives and therefore an ethos of early help is important at our school.

In **Keeping Children Safe in Education 2019** it makes it clear that ALL staff should be aware of their local early help process and understand their role in it. In addition, this statutory document makes it clear that any child may benefit from early help, but all school and college staff should be particularly alert to the potential need for early help for a child who:

- Is disabled and has specific additional needs;
- Has special educational needs (whether or not they have a statutory EHC plan);
- Is a young carer;
- Is showing signs of being drawn in to anti-social or criminal behaviour, including gang involvement and association with organised crime groups;
- Is frequently missing/goes missing from care or from home;
- Is misusing drugs or alcohol themselves;
- Is at risk of modern slavery, trafficking or exploitation;
- Is in a family circumstance present challenges for the child; such as substance abuse, adult mental health problems or domestic abuse;
- Has returned home to their family from care;
- Is showing early signs of abuse and/or neglect;
- Is at risk of being radicalised or exploited;
- · Is a privately fostered child.

All Chadsgrove staff must be aware of the Chadsgrove offer of early help. At all times, staff should consider if there is any offer of early help that we can make in order to help a child thrive. We believe that early interventions for children or families, in many cases, will prevent children from experiencing harm.

The coordinated Chadsgrove offer of Early Help is outlined in the table below.

	Level 1 (Universal Services/Support) This is support provide to all pupils at school
Safeguarding	All staff place Safeguarding and the welfare of children at the very heart of all that they do all of the time and acting quickly should we be worried about a child.
Pastoral Support	Key adults are available to pupils with whom they can share worries or concerns and can support them in dealing with difficult situations. Adults offering pastoral support may be Key workers (for children in Early Years), class teachers, teaching assistants, phase leaders or senior teachers (including Designated Safeguarding Leads).
Attendance	Our attendance officer monitors attendance and contact parents promptly if there are concerns about a child's attendance .
EHC Planning and Review	Clear procedures are in place to ensure that the Special Educational Needs and Disabilities of all pupils are recognised, met and regularly reviewed.



Open Door Policy	Parents and carers are welcome to contact school via email, phone, or through their child's home-school book and are able to meet with their child's teacher as necessary
Parents Evenings	These happen twice yearly and can be organised outside of the 'usual' time for parents who may struggle to attend meetings after school
Whole School Events	Parents and carers are able to attend school events such as sports days, Christmas Productions and End of Term Achievement assemblies – these occasions provide opportunities for them to catch up with teachers and meet with other families
School Council	Pupil voice is taken very seriously at Chadsgrove and pupils contribute to an effective school council where their views/opinions are listened to and acted upon wherever possible.
School Nursing Service	A school nurse is based at Chadsgrove and is able to assist with issues to do with continence or with other checks such as weight.
Medically trained staff	Lots of pupils at Chadsgrove have highly complex medical needs . Staff at school are trained to meet these needs and, as such, enable children to remain in school wherever possible
PHSEC Curriculum	Appropriate Sex and Relationships Education is provided so that pupils learn about safe and respectful relationships with others The PHSEC Curriculum also addresses issues with regard to bullying and the following are useful links that support this work: Bullying UK Childline https://www.kidscape.org.uk/resources-and-publications/
E-Safety	Pupils are provided with E-Safety education so that they learn how to keep themselves safe in our Digital World Online Activity (phones and computers) can be a serious risk to children: and technology often provides the platform that facilitates harm. PACE (parents against child exploitation) UK is a useful website to engage parents with safety issues. www.paceuk.info/ Other resources can be found at: https://www.thinkuknow.co.uk/parents/ https://www.thinkuknow.co.uk/teachers https://www.internetmatters.org



Level 2 (Early Help) At this level children require some extra support from staff based in school	
Behaviour Support	Staff at Chadsgrove are able to work with families to develop Behaviour Support Plans to help them manage the behaviour of their children both at home and at school.
Short Breaks	Chadsgrove offers monthly Saturday Clubs and twice weekly after school short breaks provision. Each of these activities provides families with a break from the demands of looking after their children.
Complex Learning Difficulties and Disabilities Team	The CLDD team at Chadsgrove are available to support families with managing the complex needs of children who attend the school, particularly with regard to behaviour and the need for structured or consistent approaches that are necessary both at home and at school in order to reduce anxieties and improve behaviour. The CLDD team are also available to support pupils in other schools through Chadsgrove School to School support services
Chadsgrove Family Support Worker	A Family Support worker is employed by Chadsgrove and is often the first point of call for families requiring signposting to support services both within and beyond school. These services may include support for drug or alcohol misuse, debt, mental health and domestic violence The family support worker may help families with managing behaviour, completing forms or supporting with communication. She may also complete on-line referrals on behalf of the family to organisations such as CAMHS, Early Intervention Family Support or Children's Social Care. The family support worker at Chadsgrove also organises family events and coffee mornings in school which provides families with the opportunity to meet with and gain support from each other
Youth Counsellor	Our youth counsellor visits the school weekly and is able to meet with pupils who self-refer or whose parents, carers or teachers have highlighted a concern. The counsellor is also able to meet with parents as necessary.
Drama Therapist	Our drama therapist visits school weekly to work with younger pupils identified as having an emotional need or difficulty. The therapist also encourages parents or carers to engage in therapy sessions as appropriate.
Drawing and Talking Therapy	Pupils are able to access drawing and talking therapy sessions after being referred in by a member of staff. Through this approach, pupils are able to talk about and work through issues that may be worrying them.



Lego Therapy

Pupils are able to access lego therapy sessions after being referred in by a member of staff. Through this approach, pupils are able to talk about and work through **issues that may be worrying** them.

Level 3 (Early Help)

At this level children's needs are more complex and need a response from 'external' professionals.

Team Around the Child Meetings

A large number of the children at Chadsgrove have **complex needs** that require input form many members of the **multi-disciplinary team**. The school is able to organise Team Around the Child meetings for children and their parents in order to ensure that all of the child's needs are met in a co-ordinated way, thus reducing stress on families and the need for parents or carers co-ordinating and attending lots of separate meetings

Paediatricians, orthotists and hearing/visual impairment specialists hold clinics or see children at the school which makes it easier for parents to manage appointments and minimise time spent away from school for the children.

Physiotherapists, speech and language therapists also have a base at the school and can be quickly contacted should this be necessary

Early Intervention Family Support Service

Our school-based family support worker is able to request support, with the consent of families to the **EIFSS**. This service may then be able to offer additional support with issues such as sleeping difficulties or routines.

Level 4 (Statutory/Specialist Help)

At this level, we seek further support from services to best support our families when children's needs are complex and enduring or when they may be at risk of significant harm or impairment.

Child In Need Meetings

Chadsgrove works closely with the **Children With Disabilities Team** in order to organise and review appropriate support for families. This support may relate to the provision of short breaks or be more in-depth on-going support for the families of children with **highly complex needs**.

The Children with Disabilities (CWD) Social Work Team provides services designed to meet the needs of children and young people who have complex disabilities.

The CWD Social Work Team is one of a range of services that can provide support to children and young people with disabilities and their families. Other services available are those provided by health, education, play and youth services as well as community resources provided by voluntary agencies.

The CWD team offer services to those children and young people requiring additional resources in respect of their disability, where the disability has a profound impact on the child or young person's life.

An assessment will be offered where the child has a condition which is substantial, long lasting or permanent, is a physical and/or learning disability or a life limiting, life threatening condition.



Child Protection Procedures

Chadsgrove engages fully with all matters relating to **Child Protection**, including attendance at Child Protection Conferences and being part of core groups in order to ensure that the child and his/her family are effectively supported at these times.

Chadsgrove School staff also liaise with other agencies and people within the local community.

In the table below are some National organisations that can support children, young people and their families

Worcestershire Early	
Help Offer	

Early help guidance for professionals is available at http://www.worcestershire.gov.uk/eha

There is a lot of information and advice on the <u>Advice, Care, Health and Support pages</u> as well as detail of local services that can provide support for children, young people and families.

The following documents can also be downloaded:

Worcestershire Special Educational Needs and Disabilities (SEND) strategy

The Front Door to Children's Services

(Previously: Children's Helpdesk).

If a member of staff, parent/carer or member of the public thinks a child or young person is at immediate risk of significant harm they should contact the Family Front Door (FFD) – 01905 822 666 or in an emergency always call 999.

School staff are aware that they should not wait to discuss issues concerning immediate risk with the DSL/DDSL if they are not readily available but should report it afterwards.

WSCB (Worcestershire Safeguarding Children's Board) website.

http://www.worcestershire.gov.uk/safeguardingchildren

This website provides important information for **parents** and **professionals** across Worcestershire in relation to keeping children safe and avenues of support including early help options.

This website has all of the agreed Worcestershire safeguarding and child protection processes on it.

Worcestershire Family Information Service (FIS)

Worcestershire 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.

FIS can help link parents up with other organisations that might be able to help or provide the information themselves.



	http://www.worcestershire.gov.uk/info/20507/childcare/1579/family_information
	<u>service</u>
Home-school support and the Worcestershire Home Education Network	Home education is becoming an increasingly popular option for families in Worcestershire and there is a growing community that are able to offer each other support.
	 The Home Education Network holds meetings usually at least weekly, throughout term time at various locations round the county-for example: Social gatherings occur monthly in North Worcestershire for all ages, with both indoor and outdoor games plus organised activities such as climbing/zip-wires/grass sledging for 8+. Bowling or Ice skating most months. "Education group" workshops organised regularly.
	The Network also meets up with people from neighbouring counties and goes along to the national camps and gatherings that are organised by home educators throughout the year.
	The Worcestershire Home Educators Newsletter (WHEN) lists all of the activities for the coming month and run a Worcestershire Home Educators Internet support list.
	The service can be contacted on: info@worcestershire-home-educators.co.uk
Mental Health Organisations	The following on-line resources can be used to support mental health and well-being:
	www.hacw.nhs.uk/a-to-z/letter-s/ (select self-help guides)
	Staying Safe - http://stayingsafe.net/
	SANE - 0845 767 800 Email: sanemail@org.uk; www.sane.org.uk
	Samaritans - 116 123 (24 hour helpline) https://www.samaritans.org/
	Rethink Mental Illness - 0300 5000 927 www.rethink.org
	Mental Health Foundation www.mentalhealth.org.uk
	MIND - 0300 123 3393 or text 86463 www.mind.org.uk
	Anxiety UK - 08444 775 774 www.anxietyuk.org.uk
Hollie Guard-A new personal safety APP	Hollie Guard enables parents / carers to keep an eye on their children while they're traveling to and from school with Journey. Teens can get help quickly while out with friends. Parents, guardians, and caregivers are automatically contacted by both SMS and email.



	https://www.hollieguard.com/
Hate Crime	A hate crime is a criminal offense whose motivation can be shown to be race, national origin, religion or sexual orientation.
	West Mercia Police: Email: contactus@westmercia.police.uk Emergency number: 999 Non-Emergency number: 101
	report online to True Vision https://educateagainsthate.com/parents/
	or call in at the local police station
Child Criminal Exploitation (County Lines)	Guidance for frontline professionals on dealing with county lines, part of the government's approach to ending gang violence and exploitation: https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/criminal-exploitation-of-children-and-vulnerable-adults-county-lines
	Children who are trafficked, exploited or coerced into committing crimes are victims in need of safeguarding and support. Though perceptions are altering these young people are still often criminalised and perceived as having 'made a choice' to take part in illegal activity. https://www.catch-22.org.uk/child-criminal-exploitation/
Child Sexual Exploitation (CSE)	West Midlands Safeguarding Children Procedures has a page dedicated to Child Sexual Exploitation . It provides information about child sexual exploitation, the roles and responsibilities of relevant agencies and the procedures practitioners should follow to ensure the safety and well-being of children and young people whom it is suspected have been sexually exploited or are at risk of sexual exploitation.
	Documents
	Child Sexual Exploitation: Definition and a guide for practitioners Making a referral The Local Authority has a duty to make enquiries where a child may be suffering harm or neglect. If you think that a child may be at risk then you can let the Local Authority know via the referral form linked below
	Useful Websites Barnardos spot the signs: Advice for parents, professionals and young people on the signs of sexual exploitation and how to keep safe https://b.barnardos.org.uk/what_we_do/our_work/sexual_exploitation/about-cse/cse-spot-the-signs.htm
	Department for Education (Gov.uk) National Action Plan for Tackling Child Sexual Exploitation
	Parents Against Child Sexual Exploitation pace is the leading national charity working with parents and carers whose children are sexually exploited
	<u>NSPCC</u> definitions, statistics, facts and resources about CSE





SEN Services and Support Groups	 9 Tea Cups autismlinks Links to events, services and information of use to families of people with Autism Autism Spectrum Condition and Learning Disabilities Group, a group for family members and carers, Kidderminster Hospital Autism West Midlands a support group for young people aged 16-24 with Asperger's Syndrome in the Malvern Hills area Autism in Worcestershire Childrens Centres. Find out what's happening at your local Children's
	 Centre Community Paediatric Service is concerned with developmental delay and learning disability The Community Paediatric Service Redditch and Bromsgrove) Council for Disabled Children
	 A host of useful leaflets on SEND issues many in Easy Read format to help children understand Disability Information Advice Line (DIAL) Worcestershire Website of the disability advice line South Worcestershire; local info on: Mobility; Benefits and Finance; Carers Support and Respite; Community and Voluntary Support; Disabled Children's Services; Education and Employment; Health; Housing; Independent Living; Learning Disabilities; Legal Support; Leisure and Holidays; Mental Health; Mobility and Aids to
	 Daily Living and Older People's Services Dyslexia Parent Support Group. Find out more from the Worcestershire Dyslexic Support Group Footprints Support for Bereaved Children and their Families in Worcestershire Support for bereaved children and their families in Worcestershire
	Learning Disabilities, working with people with learning disabilities, their families and the people who support them.
Gangs and youth violence	Support and Information can be found on this website: https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/at tachment data/file/418131/Preventing youth violence and gang involvement v3 March2015.pdf Website for the Youth Violence Prevention Initiative: http://www.worcesterma.gov/youth-opportunities/youth-violence-prevention
Faith abuse	Faith and belief-based child abuse, including practices around 'spirit possession' and 'witchcraft', is a hidden crime, which makes it difficult to quantify in terms of magnitude. However, from our own experience and in consultation with communities, we know this kind of abuse is under-reported. Further contacts for advice can be found from the local representatives for some faiths.



- An Exploration of Knowledge About Child Abuse Linked to Faith or Belief (2016)
- National Action Plan to Tackle Child Abuse Linked to Faith or Belief (2012)
- Safeguarding Children from Abuse Linked to a Belief in Spirit Possession (2007) this good practice guidance is archived but still available.
- Eleanor Stobart report 2006: Child Abuse Linked To Accusations of Possession And Witchcraft (2006)
- Unicef study report: Children Accused of Witchcraft
- AFRUCA: Africans Unite Against Child Abuse

Forced marriage

For information on Forced Marriage:

UK Forced Marriage Unit fmu@fco.gov.uk

Telephone: 020 7008 0151

Call 999 (police) in an emergency. www.gov.uk/stop-forced-marriage. https://www.gov.uk/forcedmarriage

Multi-Agency Practice Guidelines- Handling cases of Forced Marriage' www.gscb.org.uk

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.

The Freedom Charity (UK charity) have a helpline, text facility and app which can be downloaded to help to provide support and protection for victims of abuse, FGM or forced marriage www.freedomcharity.org.uk.

Tel: 0845 607 0133 or text **4freedom** to **88802**

Gender-based violence/violence against women and girls

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 discovers that an act FGM appears to have been carried out on a girl under 18 years old there is a statutory (legal) duty on teachers for them PERSONALLY to report it to the police.

Read http://www.nhs.uk/Conditions/female-genital-mutilation for NHS information and signs of FGM.

So called 'Honour' based violence (HBV) occurs when perpetrators believe a relative or other individual has shamed or damaged a family's or community's 'honour' or reputation and that the only way to redeem the damaged 'honour' is to punish and/or kill the individual.

There is a very strong link between 'honour' based violence, forced marriage and domestic abuse. The term 'Honour Based Violence' is the internationally recognised term describing cultural justifications for violence and abuse.

Honour Based Violence cuts across all cultures and communities

Where a culture is heavily male dominated, HBV may exist. The police have made it a high priority to help communities fight back to tackle both honour



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	based violence and hate crime. 'Honour Network Help line': 0800 5 999 247 are a violation against human rights and is a high priority area of the national and local Violence Against Women and Girls Agenda. It is, primarily an issue for young women and girls aged between 13 and 30 years. https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/violence-against-women-and-girls-
	evidence-digest-january-2018 Hope House SARC (Sexual Assault Referral Centre):
	01452 754390 For information about West Mercia Rape and Sexual Abuse visit:
	https://www.wmrsasc.org.uk http://www.onyourmindglos.nhs.uk for 'I've been raped or sexually assaulted'
Condor Identity Incues	information.
Gender Identity Issues	The Gender Trust is a listening ear, a caring support and an information centre for anyone with any question concerning their gender identity, or whose loved one is struggling with gender identity issues. People who might be Transgender, Transsexual or people who do not identify with the gender they were assigned at birth or those who are simply unsure.
	Address: 76 The Ridgeway, Astwood Bank, B96 6LX Tel: 0845 231 0505 www.gendertrust.org.uk
Preventing Radicalisation and Extremism/HATE (PREVENT duty)	While it remains very rare for school age children to become involved in extremist activity to the point of committing criminal acts, young people can be exposed to extremist influences or prejudiced views, including via the internet, from an early age.
	<u>http://www.educateagainsthate.com</u> 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 counter.extremism@education.gsi.gov.uk.
	Let's talk about it is an excellent website for parents: www.ltai.info
	www.preventtragedies.co.uk Channel guideness
	Channel guidance: https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/425189/Channel_Duty_Guidance_April_2015.pdf
Children Missing in Education (CME)	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.

This is the link for Children Missing Education on the Worcestershire website http://www.worcestershire.gov.uk/info/20595/behaviour_and_attendance/293/children_missing_education

Babcock Prime – Educational Welfare Team: <u>Primeedinvservice@babcockinternational.com</u> **01905 678138**

Missing Children and Adults Strategy (vulnerable children and adults who go missing)

Every year an estimated 200,000 people go missing in the UK. In some cases, missing adults may have made a choice to leave and 'start their lives over again', but the vast majority of missing people, children and adults, are vulnerable and need protection and support.

The strategy has three key objectives which provide the right foundations for any effective local strategy to tackle this issue:

- Prevention reducing the number of people who go missing, including through prevention strategies, education work and early intervention in cases where children and adults repeatedly go missing
- Protection reducing the harm to those who go missing, including through a tailored, risk-based response and ensuring agencies work together to find and close cases as quickly as possible at a local and national level
- Provision providing support and advice to missing persons and families by referring then to agencies promptly and ensuring they understand how and where to access help.

The police should be informed if any child or adult goes missing. The Missing Children and Adults strategy can then be referred to for further information and help.

https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/missing-children-and-adults-strategy

https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/117793/missing-persons-strategy.pdf

Children with family members in prison

Approximately 200,000 children have a parent sent to prison each year. These children are at risk of poor outcomes including poverty, stigma, isolation and poor mental health. NICCO (www.nicco.org.uk) provides information to support professionals working with offenders and their children to help mitigate the negative consequences for these children.

https://www.solgrid.org.uk/education/safeguarding/child-protection/issues/children-family-prison/

Children and the court system

Children are sometimes required to give evidence in courts, either for crimes committed against them or for crimes they have witnessed.

There are two guides to support these children which can be found at www.gov.uk

"Young witness booklet for 5 to 11 year olds"

"Going to court and being a witness age 12 to 17"



	Making family arrangements via court can be stressful and entrench conflict in families. The ministry of Justice has launched an online dispute resolution service. This can be useful to parents and carers. Got to www.gov.uk and search for "Get help with arrangements."
Stalking	National Stalking Helpline For advice and support. The helpline operates a triage service for local support and make referrals -Phone: 0808 802 0300 Website: http://www.stalkinghelpline.org Email: advice@stalkinghelpline.org
	Paladin: National Stalking Advocacy Service For advice and referral. Phone line: 020 3866 4107 Email: info@paladinservice.co.uk Website: http://www.paladinservice.co.uk
	Hollie Gazzard Trust https://holliegazzard.org/
Sexual violence and sexual harassment between children in schools and colleges	Here is advice from the WCC webpage: http://www.worcestershire.gov.uk/info/20379/domestic_abuse_and_sexual_viol ence/886/sexual_violence_and_abuse West Mercia Rape and Sexual Abuse Support Centre: https://www.wmrsasc.org.uk/ 01905 724 514
DDNs (Dangerous Drug Networks)	DDN's are drug dealing gangs who target vulnerable people in order to set up drugs distribution networks. These criminals are using extreme violence to establish a presence, displacing an existing drug supply chain and intimidating rivals, witnesses and victims, this has resulted in local murders.
	DDN's exploit vulnerable teenagers to become drug runners for their network. Early intervention and intelligence are key to safeguard and protect the vulnerable.
	For professionals that work in health (PDF, 1.3 MB)
	For professionals that work with young people (PDF, 1.3 MB)
	For professionals working in housing (PDF, 1.3 MB)
	Drug Gangs and Exploitation (PDF, 556.6 KB)