

Early Help for Children and Families

Ombersley Endowed First School



An Annex for Early Help COVID 19

At Ombersley Endowed First School we recognise the challenges that families face in bringing up children. There may be times when you need extra help and support. If this is the case, please come and talk to us. There are many ways our school can help and support you and your family as outlined in this offer of early help.

We can help to plan specific support for families by following the Early Help Pathway, meaning we can carry out a whole family early help assessment where extra support is identified. We will work with you as a family to work together to set and achieve positive outcomes in a family plan

Providing early help to our pupils and families at Ombersley Endowed First School means we are more effective in promoting support as soon as we can. Early help in schools means providing support as soon as a problem emerges, at any point in a child's life, from the foundation years through to teenage years and beyond.

In **Keeping Children Safe in Education 2020** 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 education, health care 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.

Everyone may need help at some time in their lives and therefore an ethos of early help is important for any school or PRU.

The coordinated OEFS offer of Early Help is outlined in the table below. We believe that early interventions for children and families, in many cases, will prevent needs from escalating into statutory services.

All OEFS staff must be aware of the OEFS 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 through using the Early Help Pathway.

We 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

	Ombersley Endowed First School Early Help Offer
Open Door Policy	At OEFS School we meet the needs of our children through a variety of ways. Support offered 'Open door policy'. We are available to talk via telephone and face to face and provide time for our parents to communicate and work with us (eg. Through structured conversations, Parents Evening meetings and good daily availability) Pupil Voice. Our children are actively encouraged to speak about any concerns they have to a member of staff. They know that our staff take all their concerns very seriously and they know that they can speak to any responsible adult in school. The Pupil Voice is also represented via the School Council which regularly meets with Miss Cartwright and Mrs Moore.
Developing Key Skills	Developing Key Skills. Our PSHE curriculum supports children and develops key skills, not only for school but for life. We put in place intervention in school to support children who need it, be this for academic or mental well-being.
Inclusion Manager	Inclusion Manager: At OEFS School, early assessments help identify the specific needs of our children and families, so that they can be assigned to the correct interventions for their educational, social, physical and emotional needs. These interventions may include specific learning outcomes on Provision Maps or EHCP provision. Miss Cartwright, our Inclusion Manager, manages the allocation of pupils to intervention and support groups.
School Nurse	School Nurse - We can refer children to the School Nursing team. You can speak directly with the School Nurse Team or we can refer you as a school. Health - Registering with appropriate medical support, referral to appropriate medical specialist, implementation of the Children with Medical Needs policy. Early Help Hub - We have access to an Early Help Hub in the locality, where there are community social workers and Family Support Workers amongst other agencies, who we can contact to try to find the right kind of support for you.
Attendance	Attendance - We have a local Attendance Officer who can offer support, access to other relevant agencies will be signposted if appropriate to enable good attendance.
External Support Agencies	We signpost families and seek support from different external support agencies. There are a number of support agencies out



	<p>there who we can access or signpost you to if you are experiencing difficulties at home. There are also agencies which you can contact independently should you wish to do so, who might be able to help and provide the Step 1: Support for all families We have an 'open door' policy to communicate, providing time to talk to all parents, children and families, to ensure all children are safe, happy and learning. Step 2: Support for all families We work more closely with families and children who need extra support. support for your family. Other Support Agencies MASH (Multi-Agency Safeguarding Hub) Community Social Worker, Community Family Support Workers, Early Help Hub, Local Community Police Officer, Sendiass Step 3: We seek further support from services to best support our families. The Designated Safeguarding Lead (Mrs Moore) will work with parents and Children and Families Services to organise additional support. Support could involve: Children and Families Team, Multi-agency Safeguarding Hub, Worcestershire Safeguarding Children Board, Community Social Worker.</p>
<p>What is our Early Help Offer?</p>	<p>Early help guidance for professionals</p> <p>What is Early Help?</p> <p>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.</p> <p>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.</p> <p>You can provide effective support by:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • listening • working with other people who could help • finding out about specialist agencies who could help • filling out an Early Help Assessment with the person you are helping • contacting Children's Social Care if you think the problem is more serious <p>http://www.worcestershire.gov.uk/eha</p> <p>There is a lot of information and advice on the Advice, Care, Health and Support pages as well as detail of local services</p>



that can provide support for children, young people and families.

Download: [Worcestershire Safeguarding Children Board – Early Help Strategy 2017 to 2020](#)

Download: [Worcestershire Special Educational Needs and Disabilities \(SEND\) strategy](#)