

## Support for Children and Families

### Honeybourne Primary Academy



Turning Potential  
into Success

September 2023

This policy is reviewed at least annually by the governing body

Last reviewed and approved Sep 23 (headteacher)

Next Review Date:

1.9.2024

At Honeybourne Primary Academy and Nursery 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 Honeybourne Primary Academy and Nursery 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.

Any child may benefit from Early Help, our staff, are experienced and appropriately trained to early identify the potential need for Early Help.

Our Early Help Offer is accessible on our school website, as part of our Early Help Offer/Supporting Families, we support children and young people by completing an Early Help Assessment.

[Worcestershire Children First Early Help information page](#)

**Early Help can support children and their families who may be struggling with:**

- Routines and family rules
- Families who may be not be eating healthy food
- Keeping to a healthy lifestyle
- Children who are caring for a family member
- Children who may not want to go to school for different reasons
- Disability within the family including children being a young carer
- Children at risk of being tricked, forced, or made to work in the criminal world
- Children who may need support because they may live in a home and see drug or alcohol abuse or adult mental health problems.
- Children who have parents who argue a lot (and sometimes might hurt each other) whether the parents live together or apart.
- Children at risk of being groomed to join groups which support illegal views
- A privately fostered child (a child from another family living within your family home) Is disabled or has certain health conditions and has specific additional needs;
- Has special educational needs (whether or not they have a statutory Education, Health and Care Plan);
- Has a mental health need.
- 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 or county lines.
- Is frequently missing/goes missing from care or from home.
- Is at risk of modern slavery, trafficking, sexual or criminal exploitation.

- Is at risk of being radicalised or exploited.
- Has a family member in prison or is affected by parental offending.
- Is in a family circumstance presenting challenges for the child, such as drug and alcohol misuse, adult mental health issues and domestic abuse.
- Is misusing drugs or alcohol themselves.
- Has returned home to their family from care.
- Is at risk of 'honour'-based abuse such as Female Genital Mutilation or Forced Marriage.
- Is a privately fostered child; and
- Is persistently absent from education, including persistent absences for part of the school day.

## Local Services

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

The coordinated Honeybourne Primary Academy and Nursery 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 staff must be aware of the Honeybourne Primary Academy and Nursery 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

Family Support Worker or Health Visitor	Our Family Support Worker or Health Visitor is available to support with bedtimes, morning routines, behaviour, general issues regarding children, support filling out forms and signposting to other agencies or helping to access information about other services in the area.
Mentor Link	We have a close link to Mentor link and can access them readily for any pupils that we feel need support during troubled times, providing social and emotional support.
Learning Support Team	Chadsgrove Teaching Alliance team carry out assessments to identify challenges to educational progress and make recommendations based upon their findings. These recommendations may include individualised programmes of support, approaches and strategies, classroom support and advice on inclusive practice
Communication and Complex Needs Team	Complex Communication Needs team are qualified specialist teachers and specialist practitioners with vast experience of

	<p>addressing the needs of children and young people on the autism spectrum from early years to higher education.</p> <p>The team also supports teachers and education professionals to meet the individual teaching, learning and wellbeing needs of students with autism in their educational setting.</p>
Speech and Language Therapist	Emma Checketts works in school every Wednesday. She assesses children's language, understanding and speech. She works closely with all teaching and support staff, training to implement effective interventions for each child.
Mental Health First Aider/Emotionally Available Adult/ELSA	Mrs Evans-Cook is the trained Mental Health First Aider and Emotionally Available Adult in school and is available to support children when they need support. She also provides training to staff to spot signs and symptoms of common mental health issues, provide support and reassurance, and guide the child or adult to seek professional support they may need. Mrs Perkins is currently training as an ELSA (Emotional Literacy Support Adult).
Educational Psychologist	Kevin Mackelworth works one to one with children, carries out observations and provide reports to identify and assess difficulties children may be having with learning. He offers recommendations and support. Kevin also works closely with class teachers. looking at class dynamics and provides workshops to parents too.
Play Therapist	This personalised programme is delivered to meet the needs of the child and continues until significant progress has been made or other resources have been accessed to provide support where appropriate.
CAMHS CAST	We work closely with this professional body as they provide support, advice, consultation and training with school and the parent/carers. This service sits within Worcestershire CAMHs (Child and Adolescent Mental Health Services). They work with children experiencing risk of mental health difficulties.
PSHE and British Citizenship	Our school delivers Personal Social, Health and Economics (PSHE) and Relationships and Sex Education (RSE) programmes as well as British Citizenship to further support the children's understanding of how to keep themselves safe. We invite the NSPCC in to support this.
Online Safety	Every child is taught how to keep themselves safe online through the curriculum and is further highlighted as we participate in the national e-safety week.
Attendance	Every child's attendance is important to us and as a result is monitored carefully. If a child's attendance decreases to

	<p>below 95% and 93% then letters are sent to the parent/carers to raise awareness of it and the impact on the education of the child. If a child's attendance decreases below 90% then formal attendance meetings are carried out to identify any barriers and support (walking bus, attendance support plans, family support worker referral, education welfare officer involved) required to improve their attendance.</p>
Here to help	<p>This is part of Worcestershire's response to Covid19.</p> <p>By accessing this, parents can be signposted to community support in their own community so that support is sustainable and bespoke for the families in your school's community.</p> <p><a href="http://www.worcestershire.gov.uk/here2help">http://www.worcestershire.gov.uk/here2help</a> , or call 01905 768053.</p>
Starting well	<p>The Starting Well service has a parenting and community team that can offer on line and telephone support for parents, as well as parenting courses.</p> <p>The parenting team can offer 1-1 parenting advice over the phone as well as virtual parenting groups around issues such as support with children's behaviour, anxiety, eating and sleeping routines etc, and can also signpost to agencies that can support parents in their own community. In addition to this the parenting team can also support parents to complete Solihull on line, as well as Birth and Beyond for expectant parents.</p> <p>The school nursing service can remain in contact with primary, middle and high schools via phone and email. They are providing a Chat health texting service for young people and can also provide consultations via WebEx. The School Nurse team can also offer a call or WebEx monthly session for all vulnerable families.</p> <p><a href="https://www.startingwellworcs.nhs.uk/">https://www.startingwellworcs.nhs.uk/</a></p>
Supporting happy parental relationships	<p>We recognise that during Covid 19 parental relationships maybe under pressure for several reasons, whether parents are living together in the family home or not. This website contains a range of self-help information and links to support.</p> <p><a href="http://www.worcestershire.gov.uk/info/20793/here2help_supporting_happy_parental_relationships">http://www.worcestershire.gov.uk/info/20793/here2help_supporting_happy_parental_relationships</a></p>

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### Early Help Family Support Service:

The Early Help Family Support Service is delivered by Worcestershire Children First directly to families permanently living in Worcestershire who have children aged 0-18 years old and need help and support specifically from a Family Support Worker. For more information, please visit: [Worcestershire Children First Early Help Family Support Service | Worcestershire County Council](#)

## Health (including mental health, emotional wellbeing, and sexual health)

The **Starting Well Partnership** offers a range of health services which support both children and families experiencing a range of health issues.

[Worcestershire Health Visiting Service | Starting Well \(startingwellworcs.nhs.uk\)](#)

If your child is under 5 years old and you need advice on issues such as feeding, behaviour, or toileting you can contact the **Telephone Advisory Service** on 0300 123 9551 (Monday – Friday 9am til 3pm). A Health Visitor will assist you over the phone with any worries, concerns, or questions you have.

Wyre Forest Facebook page - <https://www.facebook.com/StartingWellWyreForest>

Redditch and Bromsgrove Facebook page - <https://www.facebook.com/StartingWellRB>

South Worcestershire Facebook page - <https://www.facebook.com/StartingWellSouthWorcs>

[School Health Nursing | Starting Well \(startingwellworcs.nhs.uk\)](#)

**School health nurses** offer a range of services such as home visits, health needs assessments, time4u drop-in service, school aged hearing and national child measurement programme to support the needs of children and their families.

[Text service supporting young people | Starting Well \(startingwellworcs.nhs.uk\)](#)

**Chat health** is a free and confidential text service for young people in need of advice or support To confidentially contact your school nurse, text: 07507331750

[Social Prescribing: Onside Advocacy, Worcestershire \(onside-advocacy.org.uk\)](#)

**Social Prescribers** support you to take control of your health and look after yourself by making connections with the different types of community support available.

[CAMHS | Herefordshire and Worcestershire Health and Care NHS Trust \(hacw.nhs.uk\)](#)

**CAMHS** provides mental health help to children, young people and their families across Herefordshire and Worcestershire

[Home - Kooth](#)

**Kooth** is an online mental wellbeing community which offers free, safe, and anonymous support.

[Reach 4 Wellbeing | Herefordshire and Worcestershire Health and Care NHS Trust \(hacw.nhs.uk\)](#)

The **Reach4Wellbeing** team promotes positive wellbeing to reduce the stigma of mental health by

providing short-term group programmes for children and young people age 5-18 experiencing mild to moderate anxiety and low mood.

[Papyrus UK Suicide Prevention | Prevention of Young Suicide \(papyrus-uk.org\)](http://papyrus-uk.org)

**Papyrus** can offer suicide prevent support providing free and confidential helplines, advice, webchats, and resources.

[Home | Healthy Minds \(whct.nhs.uk\)](http://whct.nhs.uk)

**Healthy Minds'** 24/7 mental health helpline provides support or advice if you, or someone you know, is experiencing a mental health crisis and needs urgent help. Its available 24 hours a day to anyone in Herefordshire and Worcestershire.

[Winston's Wish - giving hope to grieving children \(winstonswish.org\)](http://winstonswish.org)

**Winston's Wish** provide support for children and young people following the death of a sibling, parent, or a person important to a child.

[Sexual Health Know Your Stuff | Sexual health | Worcestershire County Council](#)

[Worcestershire Integrated Sexual Health Service \(WISH\) | Herefordshire and Worcestershire Health and Care NHS Trust \(hacw.nhs.uk\)](#)

WISH offer friendly and non-judgemental specialist services to support with information and advice, contraception, pregnancy, STIs and screening.

**Under 21 Saturday Service** - Clinic telephone lines are open between 10:00am – 12:30pm on Saturdays - Please call: 01905 681673 for further details.

Young People have a telephone consultation and are asked questions about their relationships. Callers will be advised what to do next and directed towards a clinic if necessary.

WISH have a dedicated Outreach nursing service. Referral forms can be found at [www.knowyourstuff.nhs.uk](http://www.knowyourstuff.nhs.uk). The Outreach team see young and vulnerable people who couldn't otherwise access sexual health services.

Free STI test kits and contraception: [SH:24 Free Home STI STD Test | Sexual & Reproductive Health \(sh24.org.uk\)](http://sh24.org.uk)

## **Bullying (including Cyberbullying)**

If you are concerned your child or a child, you know is being bullied there are several services and useful links which can help you support your child as a parent.

In the first instance if bullying is happening at school, please speak to a member of staff who will be able to help.

The following links will provide you with more information if you or someone you know is being bullied:

[Is your child or someone you know being bullied? | Worcestershire County Council](#)

[Are you being bullied? | Worcestershire County Council](#)

[Cyberbullying | Worcestershire County Council](#)

[Kidscape | Resources and Publications](#)

## Online Safety

If you have concerns around the safety of your child or a child you know online, the following links will provide you with information, support, and advice to help understand the risks and keep your child safe online:

- [Think U Know | Information for parents](#)
- [Online safety | Barnardo's \(barnardos.org.uk\)](#)
- [Educate Against Hate](#)
- [www.internetmatters.org](#)
- [BBC | 8 tips for staying safe online](#)

Sexting is the sending or receiving of sexually explicit images, videos or conversations online.

[Sexting and sending nudes | NSPCC](#)

[Think U Know | Parents Sexting Guide](#)

## Relationships

The following services and links offer information, advice, and intervention on healthy relationships for your family and children:

- [Healthy relationships | NSPCC](#)
- Challenges at home: [Harmony at Home – information and support for parent carers | Worcestershire County Council](#)
- CRUSH is an awareness raising and support programme to help young people make safe and healthy relationships. <http://www.westmerciawomensaid.org/crush/>
- [Relationships | The Family Hub | Worcestershire County Council](#)

## Friendships and relationship in teenagers

Making friends and starting new relationships are a big part of getting older. It's very common to fall out with friends or break up from relationships – which can be very difficult to deal with. You might also be in a relationship that doesn't feel right and need some advice about what to do. The websites below contain lots of information about making friends, peer pressure, healthy and unhealthy relationships, sex and much more. There is also information available for parents around how to talk to your child about friendships, sex and relationships.

[Childline - Friends, relationships and sex \(opens in a new window\)](#)

[Disrespect Nobody - Signs to spot \(opens in a new window\)](#)

[NHS Choices - How to talk to your child about sex \(opens in a new window\)](#)

[NHS Choices - Sex and young people \(opens in a new window\)](#)



## SEND (Special Educational Needs and/or Disabilities)

*Please include any information / support you offer in your setting.*

If you are looking for information or advice the following links will help you:

[SEND Local Offer | Worcestershire County Council](#) or contact [localoffer@worschildrenfirst.org.uk](mailto:localoffer@worschildrenfirst.org.uk)

SEND Information, Advice, Support Service [SENDIASS Worcestershire and Herefordshire \(hwsendiass.co.uk\)](http://SENDIASS Worcestershire and Herefordshire (hwsendiass.co.uk))

[Social care support for children with disabilities | Worcestershire County Council](#)



**The Online Family Hub** has been developed to provide you with a range of different types of resources that are available to you online, on the phone or face to face that you can access directly.

The Family Hub can offer you support and information with the challenge's family life can bring.

[The Family Hub | Worcestershire County Council](#)



**Early Help in Worcestershire** have created a booklet to help families find out about the help and support available in the county for children and young people aged 0-18 years old. The new booklet will help you and families find the most appropriate support.

To download this booklet, please visit: [The Family Hub | Worcestershire County Council](#)

## Worcestershire Young Carers

Worcestershire Young Carers aim to identify, and support children and young people aged 7 to 24 years who have a caring role within the home and help look after a parent, sibling, or grandparent due to illness, disability, physical or mental health difficulties or substance misuse.

[Worcestershire Young Carers/Shropshire Young Carers | YSS](#)

[Carers | Worcestershire County Council](#)

## Finance, Housing and Employment

If you are facing challenges around employment and income, please contact the local job centre who can with offer support with jobseekers' allowance, incapacity benefit, employment and support allowance and income support:

**[Local] Job Centre Plus,**

**Worcester Job Centre Plus,** Haswell House, Sansome Street, Worcester, WR1 1UZ

Telephone: 0845 6043719

Citizen's Advice Bureau [Worcester Citizens Advice Bureau and WHABAC \(Worcester Housing and Benefits Advice Centre\) \(citizensadviceworcester.org.uk\)](#)

Building Better Opportunities is a service to help local people move closer to employment. [Building Better Opportunities \(fusionworcs.co.uk\)](#)

For information on what financial and housing support is available in Worcestershire, please visit: [Housing and finances | The Family Hub | Worcestershire County Council](#)

## Parenting Support

The Starting Well Partnership offer a range of parenting support, information, groups, and courses. For information on the groups available please visit: [Parenting groups | Starting Well \(startingwellworcs.nhs.uk\)](#)

Parenting Talk is an online hub offering information, advice, and a free confidential online chat with a parenting advisor.

[Parent Talk - Support for Parents from Action For Children](#)

Homestart can work with you to provide one to one support in the family home each week. This service provides support tailored to your needs and can help you as parents they learn to cope and build confidence to provide as best you can for your children.

[Home-Start | South Worcestershire \(home-startsw.org.uk\)](#)

## Family Information Service

Do you need advice and support around finding childcare? The following link will provide you with the contact details of the Family Information Service's District Teams: [Family Information Service | Worcestershire County Council](#)

## Substance Misuse

### [Swanswell - Cranstoun](#)

Here 4 Youth is support service for children and young people up to the age of 18 who may be struggling with their use of drug and / or alcohol. [Here4YOUth Worcestershire - Cranstoun](#)

## Do you have a family member in prison?

Do you have a family member in prison which is having an impact on your child? Support is available to work with both the person in prison and your family.

[NICCO](#)

Families First provides support and guidance in a safe space, to enable the whole family to cope with the demands of having a partner, and parent, in prison: [Families First | YSS](#)

## Get Safe

If you are worried your child is at risk of being tricked, forced, or made to work in the criminal world please speak to a member of staff and visit [Get Safe](#) for help and information.

***If you are experiencing any of these challenges or issues affecting family life, please contact a member of staff who will be happy to provide you further advice and support.***