

Early Help for Children and Families at Uley Primary School

'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.' Munro 'Working Together' 2013.

At Uley Primary School, we understand that family life doesn't always run smoothly and that there are many challenges that can arise. Our offer of early help is about a consensual agreement with parents and carers to work with partners, to help children, young people and their families deal with their issues as early as possible. We do this by providing information and advice and by signposting families to other services that can provide support, or making a referral. Every family is different and each needs options from which to choose, so that concerns can be reduced or prevented from growing or becoming entrenched.

Pastoral Care

Our staff are available to meet to discuss any family, attendance or welfare issues which may be affecting individual children. All staff are vigilant and raise concerns whenever they have a concern about a child's health, learning, how they present in class, approach to work, or how they behave and get on with their friends. In this way we can plan to provide early support for the child and, where appropriate, the family.

Behaviour Policy

Our Behaviour Policy is built around our Core Christian Values of Wisdom, Friendship, Compassion and Trust. We encompass an ethos of mutual respect and tolerance throughout the school. We have anti-bullying week annually and work with children to know how to identify what is bullying and what being unkind is.

Attendance

Attendance is closely monitored at Uley Primary School. Poor attendance and lateness is addressed by meeting with the parents to look at reasons behind this. We work with parents to improve attendance and follow the procedures for children missing education. The school operates a first day response system

Special Education Needs

The SENCo, Mrs Zoe Mandeville works with children and families with additional needs and can request support when necessary and when agreed, to many different agencies including for example, speech and language therapists, advisory teachers, educational psychologists, health workers and occupational health services – see SEN Local Offer.

Safeguarding

The Designated Safeguard Leads are Mrs Zoe Mandeville, Mrs Hannah Saunders and Mrs Nic Kelly-Davies (Governor). We ensure that there are rigorous systems in place and that all staff are kept aware of safeguarding issues, to ensure that our children are kept safe. We always act in the best interests of the child.

Training

The school values Safeguarding training at all levels. The Designated Safeguarding Lead (DSL) and deputy DSL have relevant, multi-agency training within 2 years. All other staff members have received single agency training within 3 years in line with Gloucestershire's recommendation. New staff will carry out online safeguarding training as part of their induction.

The school has signed up for Gloucestershire Safeguarding Children's Boards' alerts keeping their knowledge and awareness of Safeguarding up to date and at the heart of their practice.

Pupil Voice

We take time to listen to children's concerns, which can be expressed in the following ways:

- making suggestions through the School Council
- Gloucestershire's Healthy Living and Learning online survey
- discussions with key staff about the support they receive
- direct requests for adult support
- encouragement to express their views and feelings through Circle Time and Personal, Social, Health and Emotional lessons.
- children complete e-safety questionnaires and results are analysed to inform focused provision.
- our local PCSO visits regularly and conducts assemblies on e-safety and stranger danger
- children complete questionnaires regularly
- the children have access to a worry box and are encouraged to speak to

We also listen to parents' concerns. If things aren't quite right at home, we encourage parents to come and speak to us so that we can take into consideration how this may be impacting on their learning. As well as parents' evenings and review meetings, there are opportunities to talk with staff, speak to a member of staff to make an appointment.

Mental Health and Wellbeing

The school team is aware of and engage with the GSCB screening tool for parental substance misuse. We seek advice from the CYPs helpline for professionals.

We use the Gloucestershire Healthy Living and Learning PHSE and Safeguarding 'Pink Curriculum' and we work with whole classes and individuals to teach children to use managing emotions techniques.

Gender-based violence (violence against women and girls-including FGM)

All staff are aware of the prevalence and nature of FGM and are alert to signs that this may have happened or be about to happen. When there is a concern, the DSL contacts the Children and Families helpdesk and the police.

Domestic Abuse, including Teenage Relationship Abuse.

Staff understand the connection between domestic abuse, which affects all children who hear or see it and child protection. The school is aware of the MARAC Process (Multi-Agency Risk Assessment Conference). Where we become aware of a risk of teenage relationship abuse, we listen, reassure and respond, by contacting the Children and Families Helpdesk.

Child Sexual Exploitation

All staff are aware of and alert to signs of sexual exploitation and, where there is a concern, the DSL will listen to the voice of the child and contact the MASH to request use of the CSE screening tool.

We work to ensure children's on-line safety through both ICT and PHSE lessons in every year group. Children in year 4 will see the drama 'In the Net', which has been commissioned by the GCSB. As part of our PSHE curriculum, we run e-safety information sessions for parents and direct them towards the GSCB for further information. We provide them with information about the CEOP website and Thinkuknow.co.uk

Child Trafficking and Forced Marriage

We understand that this can be between ANY point – not just across borders but within towns and villages. Staff are alert to children's conversations. Where it is felt there is a risk of forced marriage, the police and the UK border agency will be contacted, as well as the Children's Helpdesk.

Private Fostering

The DSL and Deputy DSL have attended multi-agency training. They are aware of what constitutes private fostering and will check that the local authority is aware of any such arrangements existing for our pupils.

Radicalisation

Since July 2015 there has been a duty on schools to have 'due regard to the need to prevent people from being drawn into terrorism'. This is called the Prevent Duty. Key staff have completed Home Office WRAP (Workshop to Raise Awareness of Prevent) training. This is disseminated to staff who will aim to notice, check and share concerns about any individual. The safeguarding policy will be followed and the police contacted.

Faith abuse

Key staff are aware of the issues surrounding abuse linked to faith or belief and to the signs that this may be taking place. Where there is a concern, we would aim to understand the background and context to the beliefs, but would always put the needs of the child first and follow our safeguarding policy and procedures.

Gangs and Youth Violence

Key staff are aware of the risk or potential risk of harm to a child from gang activities either as a victim, a perpetrator or both. This risk may come from their peers or because an older member of their household is gang involved. When we have concerns that a pupil may be at risk of harm from gang activity, we would initially aim to facilitate support through a CAF, involving other agencies such as the community social worker, Youth Offending Service, Avenger Task Force and community police officer.

Permanency

We understand that it can be very important to ensure that school remains a constant for a child whose life may involve many uncertainties. Where this is the case, and the child is at risk of permanent exclusion, an emergency multi-agency meeting is requested.

Work with other agencies

We work with a number of local agencies who can provide support for families including:

Gloucestershire Healthy Living and Learning Team

School Nurse/Health Visitor/GP

Community Paediatrics/Speech and Language Therapy/Occupational Health/ Physiotherapy/
Continence Clinic

CYPS (Children and Young People's Services)

Educational Psychology/Advisory Teaching Service

Community social worker/ Families First plus Team

Local community policy officer

Avenger Task Force

GDASS (Gloucestershire Domestic Abuse Support Service)

MASH (Multi-Agency Safeguarding Hub)

Early Help for Sexual Exploitation

Faith Abuse- Gloucester Diocese

Housing Associations

Family Lives

NSPCC

GDASS (Gloucestershire Domestic Abuse Support Service)

GSCB (Gloucestershire Children's Safeguarding Board)

Virtual School for Children in Care

Links with support charities, where necessary, such as Allsorts, parent partnership and

Winston's Wish

The Door Youth Project

Young Carers

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). This includes information on finding and choosing childcare, such as local day nurseries, playgroups, child minders, children's centres, out of school clubs and holiday play schemes. The can also provide information on family support, tax credits, benefits, funding and much more. They can be contacted on 0800 542 02 02.