



Rationale:

At Westbury-on-Severn CE Primary School we take seriously our Christian duty to care for all, so that we fulfil our vision statement as a school that puts Christian values at its heart. To this end, and in order to promote Christ's example of coming to give 'life in all its fullness' (John 10:10), we recognise that by supporting families in need as early as possible, we may help to avert a more serious incident or situation arising for the child in our care. This policy has been written to support this process.

Our school will support all children by:

- Providing a supportive caring ethos where children are treated as individuals and their difficulties treated sensitively and they are kept safe
- Listening and responding to children's concerns
- Talking to children and asking if everything is all right for them
- Building up positive relationships with parents so they feel able to ask for help and school feels that speaking with them would help matters for the child.
- Responding to non-verbal communication such as anti-social behaviour
- Providing particular opportunities for children to express their concerns
- Employing a Family Support Worker to support the child and the family
- Monitoring the use of Pupil Premium spending and keeping a reserve for support that may need funding
- Using a 'Bother Box' for children to be able to ask for help discretely
- Talking to each other as a staff to ensure we have a full picture of any difficulties a family might be facing.
- Running concerns past a social worker for advice
- Using the CYPS team helpline
- Finding suitable, accessible parenting courses as required and where need is perceived
- Calling in external agencies, including Social Services, Family Lives, Teens in Crisis, Domestic Abuse Support, Winston's Wish, Toucan, Behaviour Support to provide early intervention and support
- Providing Safeguarding training in line with Gloucestershire guidelines
- Offering preventative signposting
- Holding 'Team Around the Child' meetings as appropriate
- Working with the Multi-Agency Working Hub
- Supporting families through the CAF or EHC process through our FSW and/or SENDCo
- Encouraging positive characteristics such as resilience and perseverance that develop self-esteem.
- Deploying our TA trained in emotional literacy and resilience education to support pupils identified as needing support in these areas
- Being proactive in dealing with any accusations or incidents of bullying
- Being a 'Telling' School where children understand that it is right to ask for help if they are in trouble or worried about bullying, abuse or any other concern.
- Working with other agencies towards a positive outcome
- Signing up for the Safeguarding Children's Boards' alerts
- Developing the notion that everyone is special and deserves to be treated well
- Keeping written logs where there may be a slight concern so that any patterns can be identified and tackled before things escalate

Useful advice and information can be found online, including:





- www.gov.uk www.gscb.org.uk
- www.glofamiliesdirectory.org.uk
- www.nspcc.org.uk
- www.tes.com

Local Authority Offer of Early Help

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- An Early Help Hub is being developed in the locality. Services involved include the Family Information Service (access to online directory of services www.glofamiliesdirectory.org.uk). Through the Early Help hub, the school will be able to access Forest Families First Plus to support families.

This Early Help offer cross references with the vision statement of the school:

- which provides outstanding and creative education in a Christian setting;
- which has a dedicated and hard-working staff, working in partnership with parents to provide an environment where children grow and have a thirst for their learning;
- where children enjoy a rich and exciting curriculum with a wide range of additional artistic musical and sporting activities for all ages;
- where all feel valued and where all are learning to care for one another;
- where the leadership of the school is supported by an effective and highly ambitious Governing Body, which oversees all aspects of school life;
- which the Local Authority and Gloucester Diocese consider to be a dynamic partner and performance leader amongst schools of similar size and type.

This Early Help offer cross references with the school's following policies:

Safeguarding

Anti-bullying

Racial Equality

Gender Equality

Confidentiality

CPSHE

Equal Opportunities

Behaviour

Health and Safety

Drugs Education

Relationship and Sex education