



## **Tredington Primary School**

### **Offer of Early Help**

**Reviewed September 2019**

**Next review date September 2020**

**We aim to develop in our children a passion for learning; strong moral, social and cultural values; a hard working ‘Can do’ attitude; the ability to communicate with others clearly and a desire to explore and understand the world around them.**

**Our school mission statement is: Friends Learning Together. Explore, Create and Share.**

## Tredington Primary School - Offer of Early Help 2019-20

Providing Early Help to our children and families at Tredington Primary School means that we are more effective in promoting support as soon as we can. 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 teenage years. Providing Early Help is more effective in promoting the welfare of children than reacting later.

We understand just how complicated family life can be. From time to time there may be situations outside school where you need extra help and support. If things are not right at home, please come and talk to us. We may be able to assist through our Offer of Early Help. There are many ways in which we can help. At Tredington we know the children well: we are alert to the welfare of our children and are vigilant regarding any situation in which we can provide support. We have a number of systems in place to identify unmet needs and we seek at all times to work in collaboration with families with openness, integrity and understanding and with the needs of the child at the centre of all that we do. Early Help is the responsibility of everyone. As such, you can speak with any member of the school team. More serious concerns will be passed on to the Headteacher or SENDCo. Usually, class teachers or office staff are the first contact for the child or the family.

There are trained specialists in school who form part of our Early Help team:

Designated Safeguarding Lead - Mrs Pollard (Head Teacher);

Deputy Designated Safeguarding Lead - Mrs Sommers-Burrows (Teacher)

SENDCo – Mrs Sim.

The school has a clear and detailed Safeguarding (Child Protection) Policy. Currently at school the Headteacher has had the enhanced safeguarding training and an additional member of staff will be undergoing the training this year. We also have a Safeguarding Governor.

At Tredington, we all work together to ensure that rigorous and robust systems are in place within the school to ensure the safety of all our children. We always act in the interest of the child. We meet the needs of our children through a variety of ways. Support offered includes: -

- **Open Door Policy:** staff are available to talk via telephone or face to face and will 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. Pupil voice is also represented via the Pupil Council which regularly meets with a member of staff.
- **Developing Key Skills:** We have an effective PSHCE curriculum which supports children and develops key skills, not only for school but for life. Children are encouraged to share their views and thoughts using the online Gloucestershire's Healthy Live and Learning on-line survey. We put in place intervention in school to support children who need it, be this for academic reasons or mental well-being.
- **SENDCo:** At Tredington a range of early assessments help to identify the specific needs of our children and families, so that they can be assigned to appropriate interventions for their educational, social, physical and emotional needs. These interventions may include specific learning outcomes on My Plans, My Plan + or EHCP provision. A My Assessment (individual information gathering assessment to help us identify how to support children and their families) may also be used. Mrs Sim manages the allocation of pupils to intervention and support groups.
- **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.

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- **Early Help Hub:** We have access to an Early Help Hub in the locality. The Families First team within the hub provides 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:** Access to relevant agencies will be signposted if appropriate to enable good attendance.

Many agencies exist to support families in Gloucestershire with specific issues. The Family Information Service provides a list of a wide variety of organisations which may be helpful to a variety of situations. See contact details below.

We understand that children and families may go through periods in their life which are particularly stressful or may experience ongoing challenging situations in life. The steps below summarise our approach to offering Early Help.

### **Support for All Families:**

- **Step 1:**  
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:**  
We work more closely with families and children who need extra support.
- We signpost families and seek support from different external support agencies. There are a number of support agencies, 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 support for your family. Other Support Agencies include MASH (Multi-Agency Safeguarding Hub), Community Social Worker Community, Family Support Workers, Early Help Hub, Families First, Caring for Communities and People, Local Community Police Officer, Noah's Ark Children's Centre, Early help for Sexual Exploitation, Faith Abuse, Mental Health Services, Family Information Service, SENDIASS (provide free and impartial advice for families with children with special needs (age 0-25 years)).
- **Step 3:**  
In times of particular need or hardship, we seek further support from services to best support our families. The Designated Safeguarding Lead (Mrs Pollard) will work with parents and Children and Families Services to organise additional support. Support could involve: Children and Families Team; Multi-agency Safeguarding Hub; Gloucestershire Safeguarding Children Board; Community Social Worker.

Below you will find contact details for some of the key agencies within Gloucestershire.

**Family Information Service** <https://www.glofamiliedirectory.org.uk/kb5/gloucs/glofamilies/home.page>

The Family Information Service offers a wide range of information to support families, children and young people from 0 –19 years of age (up to 25 years of age 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. They can also provide information on family support, tax credits, benefits, funding and much, much more.

### **Domestic Abuse**

If you, or someone you know, is affected by domestic abuse there are a number of things you can do. You can contact:

- Police (999 in an emergency or 101 for a non-emergency situation)
- Gloucestershire Domestic Abuse Support Service (GDASS) on 01452 726570 for practical local support. GDASS can help you and your children stay safe in your own home. GDASS can help you access specialist legal advice. GDASS can help you with other agencies eg benefits and housing). If you cannot stay at home, GDASS can help you find a Place of Safety. GDASS can help you and your children move on.
- National Domestic Violence Helpline –0808 2000 247 ☎
- National Centre for Domestic Abuse –0800 970 2070
- Men's Advice Line –0808801 0327

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- CARP –0845 602 9035 (providing advice for victims of domestic violence)

### **School Nurse Team**

The School Nurse team can help you with a variety of issues and from time to time they run drop in sessions.

### **E-safety**

Technology is constantly changing. How can we help keep our children safe whilst still enjoying the benefits of the internet? The links below give parents helpful advice on this subject. <http://www.childnet.com/resources>

<http://www.thinkuknow.co.uk>