



Together we Develop, Inspire, Succeed

Offer of Early Help

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NEXT REVIEW DUE: March 2026

Early Help means providing support as soon as a problem emerges, at any point in a child's life.

"Providing Early Help is more effective in promoting the welfare of children than reacting later. 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. Early Help can also prevent further problems arising". (**'Working Together to Safeguard Children - a guide to inter-agency working to safeguard and promote the welfare of children' 2023**).

Everyone at Dinglewell Infant School has a role to play in safeguarding children and is in a position to identify concerns early and provide help for children, to prevent concerns from escalating. At Dinglewell Infant School we work with social care, the police, health services and other services from the private, voluntary and statutory sectors to promote the welfare of children and protect them from harm.

The Governing Body, Headteacher, and all other members of the staff have important responsibilities to recognise the pupils who require Early Help and know the procedure for reporting any concerns. The school will initiate support for families and involve outside agencies to meet any identified unmet needs. All relevant staff are informed of any support required for students and work together to achieve the best outcomes.

Early support is based on a continuum of help and support which responds to the different levels of need of individual children and families. A child or young person's needs are reviewed regularly and levels of support adapted according to their changing needs.

Any pupil may benefit from Early Help, but in particular staff will be alert to the potential need for Early Help for pupils who:

- have SEND (whether or not they have a statutory EHC plan).
- are young carers.

- show signs of being drawn into anti-social or criminal behaviour; including gang involvement and association with organised crime groups
- are frequently missing/going missing from care or from home
- misuse drugs or alcohol
- are at risk of modern slavery, trafficking or exploitation.
- are in a family circumstance presenting challenges such as substance abuse, adult mental health problems or domestic abuse.
- are returned home to their family from care.
- show early signs of abuse and/or neglect.
- are at risk of being radicalised or exploited.
- are privately fostered.

All staff will be made aware of the local Early Help process and understand their role in it.

The DSL/DDSL will take the lead where Early Help is appropriate.

Agencies that may become involved with a child or young person who require early help could be:

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| • School Nurses | • Children's |
| • Educational Psychologists | Physiotherapy/Occupational |
| • Behaviour Support Teams | Therapists |
| • Education Performance and Inclusion teams | • Police |
| • Children's Centres and Nurseries | • Social Care |
| • Health Visitors | • CYPS |
| • Speech and Language Therapists | • GPs and Paediatricians |
| • Midwives | • SEN Support Services |
| • Voluntary Agencies | • Community Social Workers |
| | • Early Help Hubs |

Further Information

Read in consultation with current Child Protection Policy

Early Help Offer – Some Useful Contacts:

Gloucestershire Family Information Service (FIS)	This is a universal source of help for all families in Gloucestershire. The advisors working for this service give impartial information on childcare, finances, parenting and education . Contact the FIS by emailing: familyinfo@gloucestershire.gov.uk or telephone: (0800) 542 0202 or (01452) 427362 . The website is https://www.glosfamiliesdirectory.org.uk/kb5/gloucs/glosfamilies/home.page
GSCB (Gloucestershire Safeguarding Children's Board) website	Important information for parents and professionals across Gloucestershire in relation to keeping children safe and avenues of support including Early Help options. https://www.gscb.org.uk/
E-Safety	E-safety is part of our ongoing curriculum.

	Thinkuknow is the education programme from CEOP, a UK organisation which protects children both online and offline. https://www.thinkuknow.co.uk/
Bullying (including cyber-bullying)/child death/suicide prevention.	All Gloucestershire schools are committed to tackling bullying. We have a series of teaching resources produced by the Gloucestershire Healthy Living and Learning team https://www.ghll.org.uk/ to support this (Pink Curriculum). Other sources of help are http://www.bullying.co.uk
Children with multiple needs (vulnerable) or multiple needs (complex) requiring multi-agency input or assessment.	Within Gloucestershire, Early Help Teams provide multi-agency support for children and families. A phone call to discuss a possible referral is helpful before making a written referral. Schools actively refer to when appropriate.
Drug Concerns	InfoBuzz provides individual targeted support around drugs & emotional health issues, development of personal and social skills, information and support around substance misuse with sources of help from www.infobuzz.co.uk
Mental Health Concerns	Referral to school nurses may be appropriate Referral to CYPS (Gloucestershire's mental health services) via your own GP. CYPS Practitioner advice line (for professionals to call) tel: 01452 894272
Child Sexual Exploitation (CSE)	CSE screening tool (can be located on the GCSB website, see above). This should be completed if CSE is suspected.
Domestic Violence	The GSCB (Gloucestershire Safeguarding Children's Board) have published a Domestic Abuse pathway for educational settings which is on the GSCB website. Gloucestershire Domestic Abuse Support Service (GDASS) http://www.gdass.org.uk/ Phone: 01452 726570 or Email: support@gdass.org.uk
Teenage relationship abuse	See above
Fabricated and induced illness (FII)	See http://www.nhs.uk/Conditions/Fabricated-or-induced-illness for information on behaviours and motivation behind FII. Any professionals suspecting FII must involve the Police, Social Services and follow the child protection procedures outlined in this policy.
Faith Abuse	See https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/national-action-plan-to-tackle-child-abuse-linked-to-faith-or-belief for copy of DfE document 'National action plan to tackle child abuse linked to faith or belief'.
Female Genital Mutilation (FGM)	See http://www.nhs.uk/Conditions/female-genital-mutilation for NHS information and signs of FGM. Any suspicion of FGM should be reported to the Police and Social Care.
Forced Marriage	SPOC (Single Point of Contact) for Forced Marriage UK Forced Marriage Unit telephone: +44 (0) 20 7008 0151 https://www.gov.uk/guidance/forced-marriage
Gangs and youth violence	Contact the Avenger Task Force (Gloucestershire Police tel: 101) A task force set up to identify potential gang members as vulnerable individuals and potential victims and aims to help them.

	https://www.safergloucester.co.uk/
Gender-based violence/violence against women and girls (VAWG)	www.gov.uk - home office policy document
Honour based violence (HBV)	The police have made it a high priority to help communities fight back to tackle both honour-based violence and hate crime; The 'Honour Network Helpline': 0800 5999247 (Karma Nerva)
Mental Health	CYPS (Gloucestershire's mental health services)
Private fostering	http://www.gloucestershire.gov.uk/privatefostering Gloucestershire County Council website provides information on private fostering. Refer to Gloucestershire Children and Families Helpdesk on 01452 426565 or Gloucestershire's Private Fostering Social Worker 01452 427874
Radicalisation	Gloucestershire Constabulary: Ring either 101 or the Anti-terrorist Hotline: 0800 789 321

For further information on Gloucestershire County Council's offer of Early Help please click on the link below:

<http://www.gloucestershire.gov.uk/early-help-for-families>

Links for professionals:

Early Help Partnership - Request for Support Form:

https://search3.openobjects.com/mediamanager/gloucs/glosfamilies/files/early_help_request_for_support_jan_19.docx

Consent to share information:

https://search3.openobjects.com/mediamanager/gloucs/glosfamilies/files/single_consent_form.pdf