



"We believe, we achieve, we succeed in God's family"

In God, all things are possible.' Matthew 19:26

THANKFULNESS ● COMMUNITY ● COMPASSION ● TRUTHFULNESS ● COURAGE ● FORGIVENESS

Early Help Offer

Designated Safeguarding Lead: Theresa Walker

Deputy Designated Safeguarding Leads: James Austin and Claire Islam

Safeguarding Governor: Robin Taverner

Introduction

At St Mary's C of E Primary School, we are committed to providing Early Help to support the well-being, safety, and development of all our pupils. We understand that children and families can face a range of challenges, and early intervention is key to ensuring needs are identified and addressed promptly.

Our Early Help Offer outlines the range of support we can provide within school, and how we work in partnership with families, external agencies and the wider community to ensure children thrive.

What is Early Help?

Early Help is about identifying problems at the earliest opportunity and providing support before issues escalate. It includes any support provided by professionals to a child or their family to improve outcomes and reduce the need for more intensive interventions later.

We follow the principles outlined in **Working Together to Safeguard Children** and local safeguarding procedures.

How We Identify Need

We identify need in a number of ways:

- Observations and assessments by teaching and pastoral staff
- Behaviour or attendance concerns
- Pupil voice and wellbeing check-ins
- Parental concerns or requests for help
- Disclosures or safeguarding concerns
- Multi-agency referrals or information sharing

All concerns are logged on CPOMS and reviewed regularly by the safeguarding team.

Support We Provide In School

We offer a range of Early Help support, which may include:



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Pastoral Support

- 1:1 mentoring sessions
- Daily check-ins with key adults
- Spaces for regulation and reflection in classrooms as part of our universal offer
- Emotional literacy support (ELSA)
- Support with behaviour, social skills, or confidence building

Mental Health & Wellbeing

- Access to Sheila Moses our Children's Coach
- Referrals to CAMHS or community wellbeing services
- Mindfulness activities

Family Support

- Signposting to food banks, housing advice, financial help
- Parenting support and referrals to parenting programmes
- Liaison with Early Help teams or Social Care where appropriate
- Assistance with forms, applications, and meetings

Education Support

- Learning support for pupils falling behind
- SEN support plans and EHCP processes
- Attendance monitoring and intervention
- Behaviour support plans and risk assessments

Referral Pathways

If we feel a child or family would benefit from additional support, we may:

- Complete an **Early Help Assessment** with parental consent
- Make referrals to:
 - Local authority Early Help Team
 - Social care (if threshold is met)



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- School nurse or health services
- Charities or local voluntary services
- Arrange Team Around the Family (TAF) meetings
- Work with partner agencies to develop a support plan

Accessing Early Help

Anyone can raise concerns or request support, including:

- Parents/carers
- Teachers and school staff
- Pupils themselves
- External professionals

Initial concerns should be directed to the Designated Safeguarding Lead (DSL). We work sensitively with families and always aim to build positive relationships based on trust and respect.

Reviewing Support

Support plans and interventions are reviewed regularly to monitor progress and impact. If needs escalate, we work with the appropriate agencies to ensure children and families receive the right level of help.

Our Early Help Offer is reviewed annually and aligned with our Safeguarding Policy, SEND Policy, and the local authority's threshold guidance.

We are committed to keeping children safe, supporting families, and helping all pupils achieve their full potential.