



***For the purpose of this document, Blakeney, Pillowwell and Walmore Hill Schools will be referred to as The Partnership***

## **OFFER OF EARLY HELP**

**Definition: "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 foundation years through to teenage years"**

**Working Together to Safeguard children, DfE, March 2015**

Our Early Help Offer identifies the need to help our children and families as soon as a problem starts to emerge, or when there is a strong likelihood that problems will develop in the future. All staff must be aware of the offer of early help. At all times staff should consider if there is any offer of Early Help that we can make in order to help a child to thrive. Early Help is an approach not necessarily an action. It includes prevention education as well as intervention where necessary or appropriate. In some cases immediate urgent action might be necessary if a child or young person is at risk of immediate harm.

The Gloucestershire Early Help and Targeted Support Service is made up of local teams of professionals who deliver practical advice and support to children, young people and their families.

Early Help at our schools are offered through the following areas in collaboration with other agencies:

- Attendance in school
- Emotional and behavioural needs
- Parenting Skills
- Delay in development and learning
- Identification and assessment of special educational needs
- Speech and language delay
- Domestic abuse
- Faith abuse
- Gangs and Youth Violence
- Gender based violence (Violence against women and girls, including FGM)
- Parental mental health
- Healthy eating and nutrition
- Child and adolescent mental health
- Family support including Gloucestershire Families First Plus Team
- Private Fostering
- Radicalisation
- Sexting
- Teenage Relationship Abuse
- Trafficking



The help we offer is delivered by a wide range of professionals including:

- Education Psychologists
- Early Help Officers
- Early Help Social Workers
- Family Support Workers
- Play Workers
- Child mental health specialists
- Specialist behavioural support teachers and workers
- Gloucestershire Families First Plus Team;

The role of the Families First+ teams include:

- Supporting the co-ordination and development of local partnerships.
- Co-ordinate all requests for additional support on behalf of the partnership.
- Provide advice, guidance and support through Community Social Workers and Early Help Co-ordinators.
- Provide targeted support- a range of family support interventions including whole family intensive work, parenting groups, specific interventions linked to an assessment of need.

### The Partnership's Offer of Early Help – some useful contacts

<p>Gloucestershire Family Information Service (FIS)</p>	<p>This is a universal source of help for all families in Gloucestershire. The advisors working for this service give impartial information on <b>childcare, finances, parenting and education.</b> Contact the FIS by emailing: <a href="mailto:familyinfo@gloucestershire.gov.uk">familyinfo@gloucestershire.gov.uk</a> or telephone:</p>
<p>GSCB (Gloucestershire Safeguarding Children's Board) website</p>	<p><a href="http://www.gscb.org.uk">http://www.gscb.org.uk</a> Important information for parents and professionals across Gloucestershire in relation to keeping children safe and avenues of support including early help options.</p>
<p>E-Safety</p>	<p>E-safety is part of our ongoing curriculum. PACE (parents against child exploitation) UK is a useful website to engage parents with e-safety issues. <a href="http://www.paceuk.info/">www.paceuk.info/</a></p>
<p>Bullying (including cyber-bullying)/child death/suicide prevention.</p>	<p>All Gloucestershire schools including our three are committed to tackling bullying. We have a series of teaching resources produced by the Gloucestershire healthy living and learning team (<a href="http://www.ghll.org.uk">www.ghll.org.uk</a>) to support this. In serious cases of bullying parents should contact the police; particularly if there are threats involved. In an emergency call <b>999</b>. Other sources of help are <a href="http://www.bullying.co.uk">http://www.bullying.co.uk</a></p>



Children with multiple needs (vulnerable) or multiple needs (complex) requiring multi-agency input or	Within Gloucestershire Targeted Support 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: Targeted Support Teams (TST) Gloucester <b>(01452 328076)</b>
Drug Concerns	<a href="http://www.infobuzz.co.uk/">www.infobuzz.co.uk/</a> InfoBuzz provides individual targeted support around drugs & emotional health issues, development of personal and social skills,
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:
Child Sexual Exploitation (CSE)	CSE screening tool (can be located on the GCSB website, see above). This should be completed if CSE suspected. Clear information about warning signs, the screening tool and Gloucestershire's multi-agency protocol for safeguarding children at risk of CSE are at <a href="http://www.gscb.org">www.gscb.org</a>
Domestic Violence	The GCSB (Gloucestershire Safeguarding Children's Board) have published a Domestic Abuse pathway for educational settings which is on the GSCB
Teenage relationship abuse	Please see comment about the Domestic abuse pathway for educational settings
Fabricated and induced illness (FII)	<a href="http://www.nhs.uk/Conditions/Fabricated-or-induced-illness">http://www.nhs.uk/Conditions/Fabricated-or-induced-illness</a> for information on behaviours and motivation behind FII. Any professionals suspecting FII must involve the Police, Social Services and follow the child protection
Faith Abuse	<a href="http://www.gov.uk/government/publications/national-action-plan-to-tackle-child-abuse-linked-to-faith-or-belief">www.gov.uk/government/publications/national-action-plan-to-tackle-child-abuse-linked-to-faith-or-belief</a> for copy of <b>DfE document 'National action</b>
Female Genital Mutilation (FGM)	<a href="http://www.nhs.uk/Conditions/female-genital-mutilation">http://www.nhs.uk/Conditions/female-genital-mutilation</a> for NHS information and sign of FGM. Any suspicion of FGM should be reported to the Police
Forced Marriage	SPOC (Single Point of Contact) for Forced Marriage in Gloucestershire is Acting DI Jo Mercurio (Gloucestershire Constabulary) UK Forced Marriage
Gangs and youth violence	Contact the Avenger Task Force ( <b>Gloucestershire Police tel: 101</b> ) A task force set up to identify potential gang members as vulnerable individuals and
Gender-based violence/violence against women and	<a href="http://www.gov.uk">www.gov.uk</a> - 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
Mental Health	CYPS (Gloucestershire's mental health services)
Private fostering	<a href="http://www.gloucestershire.gov.uk/privatefostering">http://www.gloucestershire.gov.uk/privatefostering</a> Gloucestershire County Council website provides information on private fostering. Refer to Gloucestershire Children and Families Helpdesk on <b>01452</b>
Radicalisation	Gloucestershire Constabulary: 101 and Jane Bee (LADO) Anti-terrorist Hotline: <b>0800 789 321</b>



Sexting	<a href="http://www.nspcc.org.uk/preventing-abuse/keeping-children-safe/sexting">http://www.nspcc.org.uk/preventing-abuse/keeping-children-safe/sexting</a>
Trafficking	Serious crime which must be reported to Jane Bee (Gloucestershire LADO) and
Children who run away (missing persons/missing)	Missing Persons Coordinator Gloucestershire Police. <b>Tel: 101</b> GSCB Missing Children Protocol
CME (Children missing education)	Anyone concerned that a child is missing education (CME) can make a referral to the Educational Entitlement and Inclusion Team (EEI) at Gloucestershire

If you have some concerns a good starting point is to come and talk to the Head Teacher, Mr Stevenson, who can on your behalf, make a referral on a CRF (Common Referral Form) to Gloucestershire Early Help and Targeted Support Team. If your child is pre-school age GPs, health visitors and children's centre staff all know about the Early Help Service and can help make a referral if that is what you think would help.

Our approach is to work closely with families and to hold a Team Around The Child (TAC) meeting so that everyone is clear about what we are trying to achieve and who is doing what.

Before we can start to work with your family we need your consent. Our service is confidential and you will be asked for permission for us to speak with other relevant professionals on your behalf.