



Family Support/Early Help Offer – 2023-24

At The Orchards School we recognise the challenges that families face in bringing up children and there may be times when you need extra help and support. If you do need extra support please come and talk to us, there are many ways in which we can help as outlined in this offer of early help.

The diagram below shows the range of needs at different levels. We use this graduated approach to make sure we provide the best support for different families' individual situations.



Providing early help to our pupils and families at The Orchards School means 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, beginning with the foundation stage.

We have a safeguarding culture that promotes trust between all adults and children so that all children have a trusted adult that they can speak to about any of their worries or concerns.

At The Orchards School, we believe that safeguarding is everyone's responsibility and promote this accountability with all staff. In school we have a safeguarding team that staff can liaise with and take overall responsibility and they are:

The Designated Safeguarding Lead(s) (DSL) are:

Sarah Williams

Email : swilliams@theorchardsschool.org Telephone: 01527 872271

The Deputy DSL(s) are:

Marina Rumney

Email: head@theorchardsschool.org Telephone: 01527 872271



Charlotte Round

Email: cround@theorchardsschool.org

Telephone: 01527 872271

The nominated safeguarding governor is:

Kate Joiner

Email: KJoiner@blackpeartrust.org

Telephone: 01905 23159

The Headteacher of the school is:

Marina Rumney

Email: head@theorchardsschool.org

Telephone: 01527 872271

The Chair of Governors:

Kate Joiner

Email: KJoiner@blackpeartrust.org

Telephone: 01905 23159

Early Help Pathway

Early Help is a pathway to supporting you and your child as they grow up when you or they may need further support or guidance.

Providing early help to our pupils and families at The Orchards School means we can improve outcomes for children, families, and communities, providing support as soon as a problem emerges, at any point in a child's life, from the early years through to teenage years.

Early Help can support children and their families who may be struggling with:

- Routines and family rules
- Families who may be not be eating healthy food
- Keeping to a healthy lifestyle
- Children who are caring for a family member
- Children who may not want to go to school for different reasons
- Disability within the family including children being a young carer
- Children in the family have special educational needs (SEND)
- Children who may becoming involved in anti-social or criminal behaviour
- Children who go missing from home
- Children or parents / carers misusing drugs or alcohol
- Children at risk of being tricked, forced, or made to work in the criminal world
- Children who may need support because they may live in a home and see drug or alcohol abuse or adult mental health problems.
- Children who have parents who argue a lot (and sometimes might hurt each other) whether the parents live together or apart.
- Children at risk of being groomed to join groups which support illegal views
- A privately fostered child (a child from another family living within your family home)



Early help relies upon local groups and people in the community, sometimes we work together to help children, young people, and their families.

Everyone needs help at some time in their lives and therefore an ethos of early help is important for any school.

In **Keeping Children Safe in Education 2023** it makes it clear that ALL staff should be aware of their local early help process and understand their role in it. In addition, this statutory document makes it clear that any child may benefit from early help, but all school and college staff should be particularly alert to the potential need for early help for a child who:

- Is disabled and has specific additional needs
- Has special educational needs (whether or not they have a statutory education, health care plan)
Is a young carer
- Is showing signs of being drawn in to anti-social or criminal behaviour
- including gang involvement and association with organised crime groups
- Is frequently missing/goes missing from care or from home
- Is at risk of modern slavery, trafficking or exploitation
- Is a risk of being radicalised or exploited
- Is in a family circumstance presenting challenges for the child, such as drug and alcohol misuse, adult mental health issues and domestic abuse
- Is misusing drugs or alcohol themselves
- Has returned home to their family from care; and is a privately fostered child.
- Is persistently absent from education, including persistent absences for part of the school day
- At risk of honour-based abuse - for example: FGM

All The Orchards School, staff are aware of the offer of early help and at all times staff consider if there is any offer of early help that we can make in order to help a child thrive. We believe that early interventions for children or families, in many cases, will prevent children from experiencing harm.

Within school we provide the following early help support for all children, striving to ensure concerns, no matter how small they may seem, are listened to and supported quickly and effectively therefore maximising the chance of safeguarding all of our children:

Play Therapist: Emma McGorman is in school one day a week to work with identified children needing support. This personalised programme is delivered to meet the needs of the child and continues until significant progress has been made or other resources have been accessed to provide support where appropriate.

Educational Psychologist: An Educational Psychologist works one to one with children, carries out observations and provides reports to identify and assess difficulties children may be having with learning. They offer recommendations and support.

CAMHS CAST: We work closely with this professional body as they provide support, advice, consultation and training with school and the parent/carers. This service sits within Worcestershire CAMHS (Child and Adolescent Mental Health Services). They work with children experiencing risk of mental health difficulties.

Mental Health First Aider: Sarah Williams is the trained Mental Health First Aiders in school and has provided training to staff to spot signs and symptoms of common mental health issues, provide support and reassurance, and guide the child or adult to seek professional support they may need.

Worcestershire Young Carers: We work with service to provide support to young carers. This charity is commissioned by Worcestershire County Council to provide assessment, signposting, one to one support and monthly youth clubs for young people with a caring role at home, aged between seven and 17, who live in Worcestershire.



Behaviour Support Team: A member of the Behaviour Support Team works with identified children on a one to one basis, carries out observations and writes reports to provide information to school to support children with social and emotional difficulties.

Positive Behaviour Team: We work closely with the team who provide support with identified children who show social and emotional difficulties. They carry out observations and provide advice.

Attendance: Every child's attendance is important to us and as a result is monitored carefully. If a child's attendance decreases to below 96%, letters are sent to the parent/carers to raise awareness of it and the impact on the education of the child. If a child's attendance decreases below 90% then formal attendance meetings are carried out to identify any barriers and support (attendance bus, attendance support plans, family support worker referral,

PSHE and British Citizenship: Our school delivers Personal Social, Health and Economics (PSHE) and Relationships and Sex Education (RSE) programmes as well as British Citizenship to further support the children's understanding of how to keep themselves safe.

Online Safety: Every child is taught how to keep themselves safe online through the curriculum and is further highlighted as we participate in the national e-safety week. Our E-safety lead Charlotte Round, provides parent workshops through the NSPCC and information on the school website and newsletters to support parents on how to protect their children online.

Pastoral Team: This is led by Sarah Williams, who works closely with the SENCo, DSL's and external agencies. A member of the Behaviour Support Team, provides support on a 1:1 and group basis for vulnerable children across the Black Pear Trust and supports parents where appropriate.

Child Sexual Exploitation: All staff at The Orchards School have been trained to identify early indicators of potential cases of child sexual exploitation through annual safeguarding training and online courses (HAYS).

Female Genital Mutilation: All staff have received training on FGM. Teachers know how to identify if a child may be at risk. They are aware of the countries and places within this country where children may be taken to for this to happen. They know the signs to look for and most importantly how to refer, following the school's safeguarding procedures.

Prevent Trained Staff: All staff have been trained through online training and the DSL has received WRAP training. All staff can identify the early stages of radicalisation and what to do. A PREVENT risk assessment is in place that all staff are aware of it.

SENDIASS: Is a service which provides advice and support for families who have a child with special educational needs/disability (SEND). [SENDIASS Worcestershire and Herefordshire \(hwsendiass.co.uk\)](https://www.sendiass.co.uk)

The Orchards School information report (SIR) Provides information about how the school supports children with SEND. <https://www.theorchardsschool.org/wp-content/uploads/2022/10/Special-Educational-Needs-and-Disabilities-SEND-Information-Report-1.pdf>





Local Services

Please see below more information on support that is available:

<p>The Front Door to Children's Services</p>	<p>If a member of staff, parent/carer or member of the public thinks a child or young person is at immediate risk of significant harm they should contact the Family Front Door (FFD) – 01905 822 666 or in an emergency always call 999.</p> <p>Refer to Children's Social Care Worcestershire County Council</p> <p>Do not wait to discuss this with the DSL/DDSL but do report it afterwards.</p>
<p>WSCB (Worcestershire Safeguarding Children's Board) website.</p>	<p>http://www.worcestershire.gov.uk/safeguardingchildren</p> <p>Important information for parents and professionals across Worcestershire in relation to keeping children safe and avenues of support including early help options. Everyone should know how to access this website which has all the agreed Worcestershire safeguarding and child protection processes on it.</p>
<p>Universal source of help for all families in Worcestershire: Worcestershire Family Information Service (FIS)</p>	<p>Worcestershire Family Information Service (FIS) advisors give impartial information on childcare, finances, parenting and education. FIS are a useful source of information for parents and professionals. They support families, children and young people aged 0-19 years of age (25 for young people with additional needs) and professionals working with these families. They can help link parents up with other organisations that might be able to help or provide the information themselves.</p> <p>http://www.worcestershire.gov.uk/info/20507/childcare/1579/family_information_service</p>



<p>Home-school support</p> <p>Worcestershire Home Education Network</p>	<p>Home education is becoming an increasingly popular option for families in Worcestershire and we have a growing community that are able to offer each other support. Between us we have years of experience in educating children of all ages and are able to organise and put on a range of activities.</p> <p>We hold meetings usually at least weekly, throughout term time at various locations round the county-for example:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">- <i>Social gatherings occur monthly in North Worcestershire for all ages, with both indoor and outdoor games plus organised activities such as climbing/zip-wires/grass sledging for 8+.</i>- <i>Monthly meeting in Worcester with games, music and crafts for all ages.</i>- <i>Monthly social meeting in south Worcestershire, including indoor and outdoor games, group music session and a drama group.</i>- <i>Bowling or Ice skating most months.</i>- <i>"Education group" workshops organised regularly. Recent workshops have include: Marvellous Mosaics' 'Gunpowder plot' 'Medieval life', 'Making Music' and 'Creative Writing.</i> <p>We also meet up with people from neighbouring counties and many of us go along to the national camps and gatherings that are organised by home educators throughout the year.</p> <p>We have a Worcestershire Home Educators Newsletter (WHEN) that lists all of the activities for the coming month and run a Worcestershire Home Educators Internet support list.</p> <p>Contact us on: info@worcestershire-home-educators.co.uk</p>
---	--



Worcestershire's Local Offer (SEND)	<p>Information and advice for children and young adults with disabilities and learning needs</p> <p>Our Local Offer provides information about provision families can expect to be available across education, health and social care for children and young people who have Special Educational Need (SEN) or are disabled, including those who do not have Education, Health and Care (EHC) plans.</p> <p>You can find out about resources, services, support, activities and events here.</p> <p>SEND Local Offer Worcestershire County Council</p>
The Family Hub	<p>It is important that families know where to go and get help.</p> <p>We know that where to start or what to ask for can sometimes be a challenge. We have developed this page to give you a range of different types of resources that are available to you online, on the phone or face to face that you can access directly.</p> <p>Information and support includes:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Parenting support• Health and wellbeing• SEND Local Offer• Housing and finances• Relationships• Early Help Family support• GET SAFE• <p>Virtual Family Hub Worcestershire County Council</p>
E-safety (Online Safety)	<p>Online Activity (phones, computers) can be a serious risk to children: The use of technology has become a significant component of many safeguarding issues. Childsexual exploitation; radicalisation; sexual predation, bullying – technology often provides the platform that facilitates harm. With the right support, education and safety</p>



	<p>measures in place the internet and new technologies can also bring great benefits but we must all be vigilant</p> <p>PACE (parents against child exploitation) UK is a useful website to engage parents with safety issues. www.paceuk.info/ https://www.thinkuknow.co.uk/parents/ - This is the Child Exploitation and Online Protection (CEOP) Centre. It's a one stop shop for most information about online safety. https://www.thinkuknow.co.uk/teachers (excellent resources) http://educateagainsthate.com/ - This is the government website to help parents and professionals understand the risks of children and young people being radicalised by extremists online and how to keep children safe from this. www.internetmatters.org – A great site for helping parents keep their children safe online.</p>
Mental Health	<p>We have some useful self-help guides/leaflets available for you to access online. The guides are available for you to read online. The self-help guides can be accessed by typing the below link into your URL and selecting 'Self Help Guides': www.hacw.nhs.uk/a-to-z/letter-s/</p> <p>Staying Safe http://stayingsafe.net/</p> <p>SANE 0845 767 800 Email: sanemail@org.uk www.sane.org.uk</p> <p>Samaritans 116 123 (24 hour helpline) Worcester Samaritans</p> <p>Rethink Mental Illness 0300 5000 927 www.rethink.org</p> <p>Mental Health Foundation www.mentalhealth.org.uk</p> <p>MIND 0300 123 3393 or</p>



	<p>text 86463 www.mind.org.uk</p> <p>Anxiety UK 08444 775 774 www.anxietyuk.org.uk</p>
<p>Bullying (including cyberbullying)/ Child death/suicide/prevention</p>	<p>Cyberbullying is using the internet, email, online games or any digital technology to threaten, tease, upset or humiliate someone else.</p> <p>If the police consider a message or post to be potentially criminal, they will take appropriate action. This could involve arresting the person responsible or interviewing them under caution. Cases involving sustained abuse or where someone's life is threatened will be treated seriously. The police will consider all of the circumstances when considering the best response to a report of cyber bullying. They will assess how vulnerable the victim is and what resources are required to trace the offender via social networking sites that often operate abroad and to different legislation. In certain cases it may be difficult to take action if the offender isn't in the UK. They will work with the victim to bring about the most suitable and proportionate conclusion, this will include alternative options that include the officer in the case using their discretion and working with the offender to record an apology to the victim.</p> <p>Useful links</p> <p>Bullying UK</p> <p>Childline</p> <p>KidScape: Our resources provide information on issues surrounding bullying, online and personal safety. They can be used directly by young people and parents, as well as in the classroom within schools and youth organisations.</p> <p>https://www.kidscape.org.uk/resources-and-publications/</p>



<p>Hollie Guard-A new personal safety APP</p>	<p>https://hollieguard.com/Children & Teens</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Hollie Guard keeps your entire family safe.• Keep an eye on your children while they're traveling to and from school with Journey.• Teens can get help quickly while out with friends.• Parents, guardians, and caregivers are automatically contacted by both SMS and email.
<p>Hate Crime</p>	<p>A hate crime is a criminal offense whose motivation can be shown to be race, national origin, religion or sexual orientation. A difference of race alone is NOT sufficient to make it a hate crime. There would have to be evidence of racial slurs or racial statements in addition to the crime (this does not trivialise other serious offenses that are NOT hate crimes).</p> <p>Hate Crime: West Mercia Police: Email: contactus@westmercia.police.uk Emergency number: 999 Non-Emergency number: 101 report online to True Vision (opens in a new window) https://educateagainsthate.com/parents/ Call in at your local police station</p>

<p>Children with disabilities team(CWD)</p>	<p>The Children with Disabilities (CwD) Social Work Team provide services designed to meet the needs of children and young people who have complex disabilities.</p> <p>The CwD Social Work Team is one of a range of services that can provide support to children and young people with disabilities and their families. Other services available are those provided by health, education, play and youth services as well as community resources provided by voluntary agencies.</p> <p>The CwD team offer services to those children and young people requiring additional resources in respect of their disability, where the disability has</p>
---	---



a profound impact on the child or young person's life.

An assessment will be offered where the child has a condition which is substantial, long lasting or permanent, is a physical and/or learning disability or a life limiting, life threatening condition. These may include:

- severe learning disabilities
- severe physical disabilities
- severe developmental delay in motor and/or cognitive functioning
- profound multiple disabilities
- severe sensory impairment (registered blind and/or profoundly deaf)
- complex and severe health problems that arise from the disability, that are life threatening, degenerative illness or organic disorder resulting in severe disability
- a diagnosis of Autistic Spectrum Condition with an associated learning disability and where the condition severely affects day to day functioning

SEN Services and Support Groups

- [9 Tea Cups](#)
- [autismlinks](#)
Links to events, services and information of use to families of people with Autism
- [Autism Spectrum Condition and Learning Disabilities Group](#), a group for family members and carers, Kidderminster Hospital
- [Autism West Midlands](#) a support group for young people aged 16-24 with Asperger's Syndrome in the Malvern Hills area
- [Autism in Worcestershire](#)
ASPIE is a social self-help and motivation group for adults with Asperger's Syndrome. We provide a centre in Worcester where Aspies feel welcome and accepted.
- Children's Centres. Find out what's happening at [your local Children's Centre](#)
- Community Paediatric Service Community Paediatric Service is concerned with developmental delay and learning disability; Motor difficulties such as cerebral palsy and muscular dystrophy;



	<p>Neuro-developmental conditions including ADHD and ASD; complex behavioural difficulties; sensory impairment; statutory medical & educational assessments</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Council for Disabled Children A host of useful leaflets on SEND issues many in Easy Read format to help children understand• Disability Information Advice Line (DIAL) Worcestershire Website of the disability advice line South Worcestershire; local info on: Mobility; Benefits and Finance; Carers Support and Respite; Community and Voluntary Support; Disabled Children's Services; Education and Employment; Health; Housing; Independent Living; Learning Disabilities; Legal Support; Leisure and Holidays; Mental Health; Mobility and Aid to Daily Living and Older People's Services• Dyslexia Parent Support Group. Find out more from the Welcome to Hereford and Worcester Dyslexia Association - Hereford & Worcester Dyslexia Association (hwda.org.uk) <hr/> <hr/>
--	--



	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Support for bereaved children and their families in Worcestershire• Learning Disabilities (opens in a new window) We work with people with learning disabilities, their families and the people who support them.
DDNs (Dangerous Drug Networks)	<p>DDN's are drug dealing gangs who target vulnerable people in order to set up drug distribution networks.</p> <p>These criminals are using extreme violence to establish a presence, displacing an existing drug supply chain and intimidating rivals, witnesses and victims, this has resulted in local murders.</p> <p>DDN's exploit vulnerable teenagers to become drug runners for their network. Early intervention and intelligence are key to safeguard and protect the vulnerable.</p> <p>Presentation For DDN's (PDF, 151.7 KB)</p> <p>For professionals that work in health (PDF, 1.3 MB)</p> <p>For professionals that work with young people (PDF, 1.3 MB)</p> <p>For professionals working in housing (PDF, 1.3 MB) Drug Gangs and Exploitation (PDF, 556.6 KB)</p>
Child Criminal Exploitation (County Lines)	<p>Here is some guidance for frontline professionals on dealing with county lines, part of the government's approach to ending gang violence and exploitation:</p> <p>Criminal Exploitation of children and vulnerable adults: County Lines guidance (publishing.service.gov.uk)</p> <p>Children who are trafficked, exploited or coerced into committing crimes are victims in need of safeguarding and support. Though perceptions are altering these young people are still often criminalised and perceived as having 'made a choice' to take part in illegal activity.</p>



	https://www.catch-22.org.uk/child-criminal-exploitation/
Child Sexual Exploitation (CSE)	<p>West Midlands Safeguarding Children Procedures has a page dedicated to Child Sexual Exploitation. It provides information about child sexual exploitation, the roles and responsibilities of relevant agencies and the procedures practitioners should follow to ensure the safety and well-being of children and young people whom it is suspected have been sexually exploited or are at risk of sexual exploitation.</p> <p>Key facts about CSE</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• It affects both girls and boys and can happen in all communities.• Any young person can be targeted but there are some particularly vulnerable groups: Looked After Children, Children Leaving Care and Children with Disabilities.• Victims of CSE may also be trafficked (locally, nationally and internationally).• Over 70% of adults involved in prostitution were sexually exploited as children or teenagers.• Sexual violence or abuse against children represents a major public health and social welfare problem within UK society, affecting 16% of children under 16. That is approximately 2 million children.



	<p>Making a referral</p> <p>The Local Authority has a duty to make enquiries where a child may be suffering harm or neglect. If you think that a child may be at risk then you can let us know via the referral form linked below</p> <p>Useful Websites</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Barnardo's spot the signs: Advice for parents, professionals and young people on the signs of sexual exploitation and how to keep safe• Department for Education (Gov.uk) National Action Plan for Tackling Child Sexual Exploitation• Parents Against Child Sexual Exploitation pace is the leading national charity working with parents and carers whose children are sexually exploited• NSPCC definitions, statistics, facts and resources about CSE.• NWG Network: Fighting against CSE and working to inform, educate and prevent child sexual abuse within the UK.• Spotting The Signs of Child Sexual Exploitation: a 15 minute YouTube clip from Health Education England
<p>Domestic violence - this includes all kinds of abuse (In line with KCSIE 2023)</p>	<p>Here is a very helpful website for what to do in many different difficult situations: West Mercia Women's Aid WMA is a full member of the Women's Aid Federation of England. (westmerciawomensaid.org)</p> <p>West Mercia Women's Aid: 0800 980 3331 0800 783 1359 helpline@westmerciawomensaid.org</p>



<p>Fabricated and induced illness (FI)</p>	<p>Fabricated or induced illness (FI) is a rare form of child abuse. It occurs when a parent or carer , exaggerates or deliberately causes symptoms of illness in the child.</p> <p>https://www.nhs.uk/conditions/Fabricated-or-induced-illness/</p>



Honour based violence (HBV)

Honour' based violence (HBV) occurs when perpetrators believe a relative or other individual has shamed or damaged a family's or community's 'honour' or reputation (known in some communities as izzat), and that the only way to redeem the damaged 'honour' is to punish



	<p>and/or kill the individual. 'Honour' based violence is a term that is widely used to describe this sort of abuse however it is often referred to as so called 'honour' based violence because the concept of 'honour' is used by perpetrators to make excuses for their abuse. There is a very strong link between 'honour' based violence, forced marriage and domestic abuse. The term 'Honour Based Violence' is the internationally recognised term describing cultural justifications for violence and abuse. Honour Based Violence cuts across all cultures and communities: Turkish, Kurdish, Afghani, South Asian, African, Middle Eastern, South and Eastern European for example. This is not an exhaustive list. Where a culture is heavily male dominated, HBV may exist. The police have made it a high priority to help communities fight back to tackle both honour based violence and hate crime.</p> <p>The 'Honour Network Help line': 0800 5 999 247</p> <p>Honour-based abuse support organisations Metropolitan Police</p>
Female genital mutilation (FGM)	<p>Female Genital Mutilation (FGM) comprises all procedures involving partial or total removal or the external female genitalia. FGM is illegal in the UK and as of October 2015 mandatory reporting commenced. If education staff or other professionals discovers that an act FGM appears to have been carried out on a girl under 18 years old there is a statutory (legal) duty on teachers for them PERSONALLY to report it to the police.</p> <p>Female genital mutilation: help and advice - GOV.UK (www.gov.uk)</p>
Forced marriage	<p>UK Forced Marriage Unit fmu@fco.gov.uk Telephone: 020 7008 0151 Call 999 (police) in an emergency. www.gov.uk/stop-forced-marriage for information on Forced Marriage. <i>Visit Home Office website to undertake Forced Marriage e-learning package</i></p>



	<p>https://www.gov.uk/forced-marriage. GSCB oneday Awareness training delivered by Infobuzz www.gscb.org.uk Please see 'Multi-Agency Practice Guidelines- Handling cases of Forced Marriage' for more information and detail: https://www.gov.uk/forcedmarriage.</p> <p>Prevention Freedom Charity- Aneeta Prem 'But it's not fair' book. A book for teenagers looking at forced marriage from the point of view of school friends of the girl who went to India and didn't come back. This book promotes discussion. www.freedomcharity.org.uk The Freedom Charity (UK charity) have a helpline, text facility and app which can be downloaded to help to provide support and protection for victims of abuse, FGM or forced marriage. They can be contacted on tel: 0845 607 0133 or text 4freedom to 88802 or go to the website to download the app from the app page.</p>
Gangs and youth violence	<p>Here is a PDF assisting with Gangs and Youth https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/418131/Preventing_youth_violence_and_gang_involvement_v3_March2015.pdf</p>
Gender-based violence/violence against women and girls	<p>https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/violence-against-women-and-girls-evidence-digest-january-2018</p> <p>For information about West Mercia Rape and Sexual Abuse visit: https://www.wmrsasc.org.uk/</p> <p>FGM (Female Genital Mutilation) is violence against women and girls. Forced marriage and so-called 'Honour' based violence are a violation against human rights and is a high priority area of the national and local Violence Against Women and Girls Agenda. It is, primarily an issue for young women and girls aged between 13 and 30 years. Hope House SARC (Sexual Assault Referral Centre): 01452 754390</p> <p>www.onyourmindglos.nhs.uk for 'I've been raped or sexually assaulted' information.</p>



Gender Identity Issues	The Gender Trust is a listening ear, a caring support and an information centre for anyone with any question concerning their gender identity, or whose loved one is struggling with gender identity issues. People who might be Transgender, Transsexual or people who do not identify with the gender they were assigned at birth or those who are simply unsure. Address: 76The Ridgeway, Astwood Bank, B96 6LX tel: 0845 231 0505 www.gendertrust.org.uk
Private fostering	National Fostering Agency (NFA) Call on: 0808 284 9226 Kinship Care Kinship care means that relatives or friends look after children who cannot live with their parents. Visit this website for more information: http://www.worcestershire.gov.uk/privatefostering
Preventing Radicalisation and Extremism/HATE (PREVENT duty)	www.educateagainsthate.com is the government website providing information and practical advice for parents, teachers and schools leaders on protecting children from radicalisation and extremism. Anti-Terrorist Hotline: tel 0800 789 321 also be raised by email to the Home office: counter.extremism@education.gsi.gov.uk .



<p>Children Missing in Education (CME)</p>	<p>Children Missing Education (CME) refers to 'any child of compulsory school age who is not registered at any formally approved education activity eg school, alternative provision, elective home education, and has been out of education provision for at least 4 weeks'. CME also includes those children who are missing (family whereabouts unknown), and are usually children who are registered on a school roll / alternative provision. This might be a child who is not at their last known address and either has not taken up an allocated school place as expected, or has 10 or more days of continuous absence from school without explanation, or left school suddenly and the destination is unknown.</p> <p>This is the link for Children Missing Education on the Worcestershire website Children missing education - GOV.UK (www.gov.uk)</p>
<p>Missing Children and Adults Strategy (vulnerable children and adults who go missing)</p>	<p>Every year an estimated 200,000 people go missing in the UK. In some cases, missing adults may have made a choice to leave and 'start their lives over again', but the vast majority of missing people, children and adults, are vulnerable and need protection and support. The strategy has three key objectives which provide the right foundations for any effective local strategy to tackle this issue: Prevention - reducing the number of people who go missing, including through prevention strategies, education work and early intervention in cases where children and adults repeatedly go missing Protection - reducing the harm to those who go missing, including through a</p>



	<p>tailored, risk-based response and ensuring agencies work together to find and close cases as quickly as possible at a local and national level Provision - providing support and advice to missing persons and families by referring them to agencies promptly and ensuring they understand how and where to access help. The police should be informed if any child or adult goes missing. The Missing Children and Adults strategy can then be referred to for further information and help. It is a home office publication (2011).</p>
--	---



Sexual violence and sexual harassment between children in schools and colleges	Here is advice from the WCC webpage: http://www.worcestershire.gov.uk/info/20379/domestic_abuse_and_sexual_violence_and_abuse	
	West Mercia Rape and Sexual Abuse Support Centre: https://www.wmrsasc.org.uk/ 01905 724 514 <u>Helpline opening times:</u>	
	Monday	7.30pm to 9.30pm
	Tuesday	1.00pm to 5.00pm
	Thursday	7.30pm to 9.30pm
Friday	10.00am to 2.00pm	

Early Help Family Support Service:

The Early Help Family Support Service is delivered by Worcestershire Children First directly to families permanently living in Worcestershire who have children aged 0-18 years old and need help and support specifically from a Family Support Worker. For more information, please visit: [Worcestershire Children First Early Help Family Support Service | Worcestershire County Council](#)

Health (including mental health, emotional wellbeing, and sexual health)

The **Starting Well Partnership** offers a range of health services which support both children and families experiencing a range of health issues.

[Worcestershire Health Visiting Service | Starting Well \(startingwellworcs.nhs.uk\)](#)

If your child is under 5 years old and you need advice on issues such as feeding, behaviour, or toileting you can contact the **Telephone Advisory Service** on 0300 123 9551 (Monday – Friday 9am til 3pm). A Health Visitor will assist you over the phone with any worries, concerns, or questions you have.

[School Health Nursing | Starting Well \(startingwellworcs.nhs.uk\)](#)

School health nurses offer a range of services such as home visits, health needs assessments, time4u drop-in service, school aged hearing and national child measurement programme to support the needs of children and their families.

[Text service supporting young people | Starting Well \(startingwellworcs.nhs.uk\)](#)

Chat health is a free and confidential text service for young people in need of advice or



support

To confidentially contact your school nurse, text: 07507331750

[Social Prescribing: Onside Advocacy, Worcestershire \(onside-advocacy.org.uk\)](https://onside-advocacy.org.uk)

Social Prescribers support you to take control of your health and look after yourself by making connections with the different types of community support available.

[CAMHS | Herefordshire and Worcestershire Health and Care NHS Trust \(hacw.nhs.uk\)](https://hacw.nhs.uk)

CAMHS provides mental health help to children, young people and their families across Herefordshire and Worcestershire

[Home - Kooth](#)

Kooth is an online mental wellbeing community which offers free, safe, and anonymous support.

[Reach 4 Wellbeing | Herefordshire and Worcestershire Health and Care NHS Trust \(hacw.nhs.uk\)](https://hacw.nhs.uk)

The **Reach4Wellbeing** team promotes positive wellbeing to reduce the stigma of mental health by providing short-term group programmes for children and young people age 5-18 experiencing mild to moderate anxiety and low mood.

[Papyrus UK Suicide Prevention | Prevention of Young Suicide \(papyrus-uk.org\)](https://papyrus-uk.org)

Papyrus can offer suicide prevent support providing free and confidential helplines, advice, webchats, and resources.

[Home | Healthy Minds \(whct.nhs.uk\)](https://whct.nhs.uk)

Healthy Minds' 24/7 mental health helpline provides support or advice if you, or someone you know, is experiencing a mental health crisis and needs urgent help. Its available 24 hours a day to anyone in Herefordshire and Worcestershire.

[Winston's Wish - giving hope to grieving children \(winstonswish.org\)](https://winstonswish.org)

Winston's Wish provide support for children and young people following the death of a sibling, parent, or a person important to a child.

[Sexual Health Know Your Stuff | Sexual health | Worcestershire County Council
Worcestershire Integrated Sexual Health Service \(WISH\) | Herefordshire and Worcestershire
Health and Care NHS Trust \(hacw.nhs.uk\)](#)

WISH offer friendly and non-judgemental specialist services to support with information and advice, contraception, pregnancy, STIs and screening.

Under 21 Saturday Service - Clinic telephone lines are open between 10:00am – 12:30pm on Saturdays - Please call: 01905 681673 for further details.

Young People have a telephone consultation and are asked questions about their relationships. Callers will be advised what to do next and directed towards a clinic if necessary.

WISH have a dedicated Outreach nursing service. Referral forms can be found at www.knowyourstuff.nhs.uk. The Outreach team see young and vulnerable people who couldn't otherwise access sexual health services.

Free STI test kits and contraception: [SH:24 Free Home STI STD Test | Sexual & Reproductive Health \(sh24.org.uk\)](https://sh24.org.uk)



Bullying (including Cyberbullying)

If you are concerned your child or a child, you know is being bullied there are several services and useful links which can help you support your child as a parent.

In the first instance if bullying is happening at school, please speak to a member of staff who will be able to help.

The following links will provide you with more information if you or someone you know is being bullied:

[Worcestershire Children First | Worcestershire County Council](#)

Online Safety

If you have concerns around the safety of your child or a child you know online, the following links will provide you with information, support, and advice to help understand the risks and keep your child safe online:

- [Think U Know | Information for parents](#)
- [Online safety | Barnardo's \(barnardos.org.uk\)](#)
- [Educate Against Hate](#)
- [www.internetmatters.org](#)
- [BBC | 8 tips for staying safe online](#)

Sexting is the sending or receiving of sexually explicit images, videos or conversations online.

[Sexting and sending nudes | NSPCC](#)
[Think U Know | Parents Sexting Guide](#)

Relationships

The following services and links offer information, advice, and intervention on healthy relationships for your family and children:

- [Healthy relationships | NSPCC](#)
- Challenges at home: [Harmony at Home – information and support for parent carers | Worcestershire County Council](#)

Friendships and relationship in teenagers

Making friends and starting new relationships are a big part of getting older. It's very common to fall out with friends or break up from relationships – which can be very difficult to deal with. You might also be in a relationship that doesn't feel right and need some advice about what to do. The websites below contain lots of information about making friends, peer pressure, healthy and unhealthy relationships, sex and much more. There is also information available for parents around how to talk to your child about friendships, sex and relationships.

[Childline - Friends, relationships and sex \(opens in a new window\)](#)

[NHS Choices - How to talk to your child about sex \(opens in a new window\)](#)

[NHS Choices - Sex and young people \(opens in a new window\)](#)



SEND (Special Educational Needs and/or Disabilities)

The Orchards School information report (SIR) Provides information about how the school supports children with SEND. <https://www.theorchardsschool.org/wp-content/uploads/2022/10/Special-Educational-Needs-and-Disabilities-SEND-Information-Report-1.pdf>



If you are looking for information or advice the following links will help you:

[SEND Local Offer | Worcestershire County Council](#) or contact localoffer@worschildrenfirst.org.uk

SEND Information, Advice, Support Service [SENDIASS Worcestershire and Herefordshire \(hwsendiass.co.uk\)](http://SENDIASS Worcestershire and Herefordshire (hwsendiass.co.uk))

[Social care support for children with disabilities | Worcestershire County Council](#)



Parenting support



Health and wellbeing



SEND Local Offer



Housing and finances

The Online Family Hub has been developed to provide you with a range of different types of resources that are available to you online, on the phone or face to face that you can access directly.

The Family Hub can offer you support and information with the challenge's family life can bring.

[The Family Hub | Worcestershire County Council](#)



Relationships



Early Help Family Support



GET SAFE



Early Help Booklet

Early Help in Worcestershire have created a booklet to help families find out about the help and support available in the county for children and young people aged 0-18 years old. The new booklet will help you and families find the most appropriate support.

Worcestershire Young Carers

Worcestershire Young Carers aim to identify, and support children and young people aged 7 to 24 years who have a caring role within the home and help look after a parent, sibling, or



grandparent due to illness, disability, physical or mental health difficulties or substance misuse.

[Young Carers and Young Adult Carers | Worcestershire County Council](#)

Finance, Housing and Employment

If you are facing challenges around employment and income, please contact the local job centre who can with offer support with jobseekers' allowance, incapacity benefit, employment and support allowance and income support:

Bromsgrove Job Centre Plus, Park Side, Market St, Bromsgrove B61 8DA. Telephone: 0800 169 0190

Citizen's Advice Bureau [Worcester Citizens Advice Bureau and WHABAC \(Worcester Housing and Benefits Advice Centre\)](#) (citizensadviceworcester.org.uk)

For information on what financial and housing support is available in Worcestershire, please visit:

<https://bdht.co.uk/>

Parenting Support

The Starting Well Partnership offer a range of parenting support, information, groups, and courses. For information on the groups available please visit: [Parenting groups | Starting Well](#) (startingwellworcs.nhs.uk)

Parenting Talk is an online hub offering information, advice, and a free confidential online chat with a parenting advisor.

[Parent Talk - Support for Parents from Action For Children](#)

Homestart can work with you to provide one to one support in the family home each week. This service provides support tailored to your needs and can help you as parents they learn to cope and build confidence to provide as best you can for your children.

[Home-Start | South Worcestershire](#) (home-startsw.org.uk)

Family Information Service

Do you need advice and support around finding childcare? The following link will provide you with the contact details of the Family Information Service's District Teams: [Family Information Service | Worcestershire County Council](#)

Substance Misuse

Here 4 Youth is support service for children and young people up to the age of 18 who may be struggling with their use of drug and / or alcohol. [Here4YOUth Worcestershire - Cranstoun](#)



Do you have a family member in prison?

Do you have a family member in prison which is having an impact on your child? Support is available to work with both the person in prison and your family.

[NICCO](#)

Get Safe

If you are worried your child is at risk of being tricked, forced, or made to work in the criminal world please speak to a member of staff and visit GET SFE for help and information. [Get Safe | Worcestershire County Council](#)

If you are experiencing any of these challenges or issues affecting family life, please contact a member of staff who will be happy to provide you further advice and support.