

St Mary's Catholic Primary School

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Our School Early Help Offer

Early Help

We understand that from time-to-time family life can have its difficulties. At these times You may need some extra help and support. To help you and your family we have an Early Help Offer.

What is it? Early Help means providing support as soon as a problem appears, to stop it from getting worse. This could be at any point in a child's life, from birth to the teenage years. Anyone can provide early help – you don't need to be an expert professional. Early Help is not about passing the issue on to an expert, but thinking about the best support we can offer. What sort of Concerns might you share? These might be:

- Behaviour
- Attendance
- Financial worries and debt
- Domestic Abuse
- Housing
- Bereavement and loss
- Cyber Bullying
- Any concerns that you are worried about might be having a negative impact on your children

What might we offer in response to your concerns?

We will support you as a family in every way that we can. This might be through:

- Listening to your worries
- Key interventions such as nurture groups, time with a mentor, time with our mental health first aider or reasonable adjustments in school
- Targeted support
- Support and guidance to find the right outside agencies
- Completing an Early Help assessment with you
- Help and support with referrals to support services
- Support you with concerns regarding attendance

National College

Parents can sign up to this fantastic resource which we also use regularly in school. All schools within Emmaus have been provided with this opportunity to support online safety of our children.

- Within school, we are able to see which courses that you have completed, but not any other details. Please ensure that you select the 'parent/carer' user group when you sign up. <https://nationalcollege.com/> There are lots of resources, guides and webinars to support you to keep your child safe online.

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How will our safeguarding procedures be effective in supporting our families?

At St Mary's we have a Designated Safeguarding Lead and safeguarding deputies. All our staff are trained to identify and report safeguarding concerns. Where concerns are raised, we will follow the reporting procedures. Our team works and supports our families to work with all relevant agencies to reduce and remove identified risks.

How will our children learn to keep themselves safe?

Our curriculum provision and additional work from outside agencies, including charities and the police support our children in learning how to keep themselves safe.

- The Early Help Team
- School Nurse
- Mentor Link
- Early Intervention Family Support
- Speech and Language Therapist
- Educational Psychologist
- Autism Team
- Community Paediatrician
- Specialist Support Service
- Support from local police officer – PC Kat Andrews
- PSHE / RSE curriculum (Ten:Ten)
- Visits from community figures such as Fire Brigade, PCSOs and Police Dog Handlers
- Assemblies focussing on keeping safe
- Swimming lessons
- SENDIAS
- CAMHS

For further information please contact:

Interim Executive Principal/DSL: Mr Anthony Wilkes

Interim Head of School/DDSL: Mr A Lodge

SENCO/DDSL: Mrs R Moseley

Mental Health First Aider: Miss J Hickman

Help and Guidance

Dudley Children's Font Door	If a staff member, parent/carer or member of the public thinks a child or young person is at immediate risk of significant harm contact Children's Services Team by completing a Request for Help and Support Form or by calling 0300 555 0050 (or 0300 555 8574 for the out of hours Emergency Duty Team). If there is a concern that a child is immediately at risk, call the Police on 999.
Early Help Service Team	www.dudley.gov.uk/earlyhelpcaf 0300 550 0050
Dudley Safeguarding People Partnership website	Professionals working with Children - Dudley Safeguarding Children Important information for parents and professionals across Dudley in relation to keeping children safe and avenues of support including early help options. Everyone should know how to access this website

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	<p>which has all of the agreed Dudley safeguarding and child protection processes on it.</p>
Useful links from Dudley Safeguarding People Partnership website	<p>Links to a range of areas such as anti-bullying, autism, Barnados, The children's society, domestic violence, forced marriage and others.</p> <p>Useful Links - Dudley Safeguarding Children</p>
Dudley Early Help Strategy	<p>EARLY HELP STRATEGY healthandwellbeing (dudleyhealthandwellbeing.org.uk)</p>
Online Safety	<p>Online Safety dudleysafeandsound</p> <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. Child sexual exploitation; radicalisation; sexual predation – technology often provides the platform that facilitates harm. With the right support, education and safety 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 4 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 and Wellbeing	<p>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/ SANE 0845 767 800 Email: sanemail@org.uk www.sane.org.uk</p> <p>Samaritans 116 123 (24 hour helpline) www.samaritans.org.uk</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 text 86463 www.mind.org.uk</p> <p>Anxiety UK 08444 775 774 www.anxietyuk.org.uk</p>
Hollie Guard A new personal safety APP	<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.
Children with Disabilities support (Dudley)	<p>Children with disabilities Dudley Council</p> <p>Supporting children with learning or physical disabilities, special education needs or autism to live independent, happy and fulfilling lives.</p>

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<p>Child Criminal Exploitation (including County Lines)</p>	<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: https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/criminal-exploitation-of-children-and-vulnerable-adults-county-lines 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. https://www.catch-22.org.uk/child-criminal-exploitation/</p>
<p>Child Sexual Exploitation (CSE)</p>	<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. West Midlands Violence Reduction Partnership (westmidlands-vrp.org) 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>Connexions</p>	<p>01384 811400</p> <p>Working in Dudley schools, colleges, and training providers. The service is designed to support young people aged 13-19 (up to aged 25 with an EHCP)</p>
<p>Domestic Violence</p>	<p>Domestic Abuse services from Black Country Womens Aid Information from Dudley Safe and Sound Resources from Chadd Refuge Asian Women's Resource Centre Information from Galop , LGBT+ anti-violence charity The Hideout Family Lives</p>
<p>Fabricated and induced illness (FII)</p>	<p>Fabricated or induced illness (FII) 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>

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	<p>Overview - Fabricated or induced illness - NHS (www.nhs.uk)</p>
<p>Honour based violence (HBV)</p>	<p>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 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. The 'Honour Network Help line': 0800 5 999 247</p>
<p>Female genital mutilation (FGM)</p>	<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 (FGM) - NHS (www.nhs.uk) E-learning package http://www.fgmelearning.co.uk/ for interested staff or professionals (free home office elearning)</p>
<p>Forced marriage</p>	<p>UK Forced Marriage Unit fm@fco.gov.uk Telephone: 020 7008 0151 Call 999 (police) in an emergency. www.gov.uk/stop-forced-marriage for information on Forced Marriage. Visit Home Office website to undertake Forced Marriage e-learning package https://www.gov.uk/forced-marriage . GSCB one day 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 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>

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<p>Preventing Radicalisation and Extremism/HATE (PREVENT duty)</p>	<p>Mark Wilson is the Dudley Prevent officer</p> <p>Dudley Safer 7 poster 2022.11.Safer7-Prevent.pdf (dudleysafeguarding.org.uk)</p> <p>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 Let's talk about it is an excellent website for parents: www.itai.info/ as is www.preventtragedies.co.uk While it remains very rare for school age children to become involved in extremist activity to the point of committing criminal acts, young people can be exposed to extremist influences or prejudiced views, including via the internet, from an early age. As with other forms of criminality or risk of harm, early intervention is always preferable. Schools, working with other local partners, families and communities, can help support pupils who may be vulnerable as part of wider safeguarding responsibilities.</p> <p>Channel guidance: Channel and Prevent Multi-Agency Panel (PMAP) guidance - GOV.UK (www.gov.uk)</p>
<p>Sexting/Sextortion/youth produced imagery</p>	<p>Http://www.nspcc.org.uk/preventing-abuse/keepingchildren-safe/sexting (NSPCC website)</p>
<p>Children with family members in prison</p>	<p>Approximately 200,000 children have a parent sent to prison each year. These children are at risk of poor outcomes including poverty, stigma, isolation and poor mental health. NICCO (www.nicco.org.uk) provides information to support professionals working with offenders and their children to help mitigate the negative consequences for these children. https://www.solgrid.org.uk/education/safeguarding/child-protection/issues/children-family-prison/</p>