

Early Help for Children and Families



EARLY HELP OFFER

At St Bede's Catholic Middle School, we recognise the challenges that families face in bringing up children. There may be times when you need extra help and support. If this is the case 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 St Bede's Catholic Middle 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, from the foundation years through to teenage years.



Key Personnel:

The Designated Safeguarding Lead (DSL) is: Kate Gallinagh

Contact details:

email: kgallinagh@stb.lourdesmac.org.uk Telephone: 01527525916

The deputy DSL(s) is/are: Emma James, Rebecca Wintle, Dawn Melsom, Matthew Russell, Jenny Stewart

Contact details:

email: ejames@stb.lourdesmac.org.uk mrussell@stb.lourdesmac.org.uk
rwintle@stb.lourdesmac.org.uk dmelsom@stb.lourdesmac.org.uk
jstewart@stb.lourdesmac.org.uk

Telephone: 01527525916

The nominated safeguarding governor is: Kayte Cronin

Contact details:

email: KCronin@lourdesmac.org.uk

The Headteacher is: Lloyd Roberts

Contact details:

email: lroberts@stb.lourdesmac.org.uk Telephone: 01527525916

The Chair of Governors are: Tom Haycock

Contact details:

email: THaycock@lourdesmac.org.uk

At St Bede’s Catholic Middle School (Academy), our Pastoral and Safeguarding team meet once a week to discuss any concerns. This team includes:

Mrs K Gallinagh – Assistant Principal – Pastoral, Attendance and Designated Safeguarding Lead,

Mrs R Wintle – Head of Key Stage 3 – Deputy Safeguarding Lead

Mrs D Melsom – Head of Key Stage 2 – Deputy Safeguarding Lead

Mrs E James – Pastoral Manager – Deputy Safeguarding Lead

Miss J Stewart – Pastoral Manager

Mr Delo – Academic Coach

At these meetings we discuss:

How the child presents	Behaviour	Attitudes to learning
Friendships	Family issues	Additional needs
Any support they receive	General progress	Other agencies involved

This allows us to identify any pupils and families that would benefit from early help and allows us to help them access the services in the school and beyond the school.

PREVENT TRAINING – Radicalisation.

Mrs Gallinagh has received PREVENT training and has trained the team on how to identify the early stages of radicalisation and what to do. We follow the mantra;

NOTICE

CHECK

SHARE

Child Sexual Exploitation

All staff at St Bede’s Catholic School (Academy) have been trained to identify early cases of child sexual exploitation. They know the signs to look for and most importantly how to refer, following the schools safeguarding procedures.

Female Genital Mutilation

All staff have received training on FGM. Teachers know how to identify if a child may be at risk. They know the signs to look for and most importantly how to refer, following the schools safeguarding procedures.

At St Bede's Catholic Middle School (Academy) we meet the needs of our children through a variety of ways:

Pupil Support – pupils are actively encouraged to speak about any concerns they have to a member of staff or to our pastoral team. In lessons children are taught to speak openly about their emotions. Pupils know the staff take all their concerns very seriously and we offer a range of support in school depending on the needs of the pupil.

- Children's questionnaires (PASS Survey) ascertain if they feel happy and safe
- RCAD questionnaire is used with targeted pupils to ascertain what support that pupil needs further to help with wellbeing and mental health
- E-safety assembly delivered to all pupils
- Parent Support Group offered half termly
- Our local PCSO conducts works closely with pupils in school on a range of topics
- The 'Pastoral Room KS2 and KS3' is available throughout the day for arranged appointments and also for unexpected issues
- The 'Thrive Room' is available throughout the day for pupils who are part of our Thrive Programme.
- Thrive is a big part of our school. All teachers have had an overview on Thrive and use the fundamentals in their day to day approach to teaching and behaviour. Also 9 members of staff are fully thrived trained. We offer 1:1 session for pupils that we feel would benefit from thrive support.
- All pupils take part in Thrive on a Friday afternoon during reflection time
- Our school council have a huge role is pupil voice and they meet with Mrs Melsom.
- Every form class have an Anti-Bullying Representative who work with Miss Stewart. The Majority of our representatives plus Miss Stewart and Mrs Wintle have had training from the Diana Awards Anti-Bullying Training.
- Wellbeing Buddies help promote positive wellbeing in every form class
- Senior Leadership Team presence during unstructured times
- The worry email, IamWorried@stb.lourdesmac.org.uk , is displayed in all form rooms and allows children an opportunity to express any concerns or worries they have via email if they do not feel confident enough to talk to an adult.
- Key staff have received mental health first aid training so that they can support pupils with any well-being concerns, should they need it.
- Meditation sessions are offered to children who we feel would benefit from having some time out to de-stress and relax and also to help with understanding how meditation can be used to help feel calm during stressful or anxious situations.
- Mini Vinnies helps children to improve their own emotional wellbeing by supporting others whom are less fortunate.

ATTENDANCE

Mrs Gallinagh and Miss Waters lead on attendance. They monitor this weekly and they follow our attendance policy to support pupils and families with attendance that is below 90%. The aim is to offer help and solutions to any problems. Parents/Carers can access their child's attendance via Epraise.

The school operates a first day response system.

SAFEGUARDING

- All teachers and staff know precisely how to identify and report concerns, via staff training on induction and our regular updates on safeguarding.
- All concerns are reported on MyConcerns and this can be accessed by the DSL and the DDSL's
- If a member of staff or a outside agency worker cannot access MyConcerns, they are to fill out a Safeguarding Form 1 which are kept in the front office. This is then handed to a DSL.
- ATTENDANCE team follow missing from education guidance.
- All new staff complete safeguarding inductions.
- We have a designated teacher for children in care.

We have a record that all staff have read Keeping Children Safe in Education (Sep 2019).

Behaviour for Learning at St Bede's Catholic Middle School (Academy)

St Bede's believes that in order to enable effective teaching and learning to take place, good behaviour in all aspects of school life is necessary. We seek to create a caring, learning environment based on our Catholic Virtues: where every pupil's contribution is valued, where everyone in the school is treated with respect and accords respect to others. Our school Behaviour Policy can be found on the school website. Parents/Carers can access their child's behaviour for learning record via Epraise.

Pastoral Support

Mrs James, Miss Stewart and Mr Delo work with pupils and families closely to support their needs whilst also signposting them to relevant agencies. With family's consent, we can refer for further family support.

SENCO

Mr West works with children and families with additional needs and can signpost parents to many different agencies.

Designated Safeguarding Lead (DSL)

The DSL (Mrs Gallinagh) ensures rigorous and robust systems are in place within the school to ensure the safety of all of our children.

In **Keeping Children Safe in Education 2020** 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 misusing drugs or alcohol themselves;
- Is at risk of modern slavery, trafficking or exploitation;
- Is in a family circumstance present challenges for the child; such as substance abuse, adult mental health problems or domestic abuse;
- Has returned home to their family from care;
- Is showing early signs of abuse and/or neglect;
- Is at risk of being radicalised or exploited;
- Is a privately fostered child.

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

The coordinated St Bede's offer of Early Help is outlined in the table below. We believe that early interventions for children or families, in many cases, will prevent children from experiencing harm.

All St Bede's Catholic Middle School (Academy) staff must be aware of the schools offer of early help. At all times all staff should consider if there is any offer of early help that we can make in order to help a child thrive.

We also liaise with other agencies and people within the local community. The table below shows what support is offered in school along with local and national organisations that can support children, young people and their families

<p>Designated Safeguarding Lead (DSL) and deputy DSL's of St Bede's Catholic Middle School (Academy)</p>	<p>If you have any safeguarding concerns regarding a child at our school or in the community, then please contact a member of the safeguarding team on 01527 525916.</p> <p>If you think a child or young person is at immediate risk of significant harm then you should contact the Family Front Door (FFD) – 01905 822 666 or in an emergency always call 999.</p>
<p>Pastoral Support Team</p>	<p>Generic queries should be directed to the form or subject teacher at the first instance, however if you feel you would like to have a chat with the pastoral team regarding more sensitive issues, please contact Mrs James, Mrs Stewart or Mr Delo on 01527 525916</p>

Mental Health First Aid drop -in	Mrs Melsom (Youth Mental Health First Aider) runs a drop in every Thursday Lunchtime
Young Carers Support Group	School runs a Young Carers group weekly
Social Club	Social Club is on every lunchtime and provides an opportunity for pupils to do a range of activities with Mrs James that help them to build up communications skills and gets the pupils to interact with other pupils in school.
SATs Anxiety Support	A designated member of pastoral will work and support children in Year 6 who are feeling anxious and worried over SATs. These sessions will take place once a week and offer the pupils strategies to support their emotions.
Year 8 Transition Support Group	A designated member of pastoral will work and support children in Year 8 whom are worried about transitioning to high school. This will involve a session once a week and extra visits to high school prior to starting.
Hidden Sentence	Pastoral members of staff have had Hidden Sentence training in supporting children who have a family member in prison. Pastoral can offer support and guidance to help a child understand their emotions and talk with them about what happens when and if they visit their family member in prison
Junior Apprenticeship Programme	The Junior Apprenticeship Programme, run by Mr Delo and Mr Dickinson, allows selected pupils to work on a range of skills such as team building and communication through activities such as gardening, painting, and working with the local community. This takes place every Monday for 10-12 weeks.
Forest School	Forest School, run by Mr Delo, allows selected pupils to work on a range of skills such as team building and communication through activities based outside.
Foundation Group	School has a foundation group whereby a small number of children in school, who find the mainstream setting academically difficult, are offered a tailored, nurturing curriculum to support their needs. The foundation group also receive Thrive, once a week.



Thrive	Miss Allen is our Thrive Lead in school and Miss Stewart and Mr Delo runs Thrive sessions. If you would like more information on Thrive or to discuss whether Thrive 1:1 session would be suitable for your child, please contact school on 01527 525916
1:1 Pastoral Support	Miss James runs a range of 6-week intervention sessions in different areas: social skills, self-esteem, anxiety and stress, anger management. If you would like more information or to discuss whether a 1:1 session would be suitable for your child, please contact school on 01527 525916
Group Sessions	Pastoral staff run group sessions to support pupils. These different group sessions in different areas: social skills, self-esteem, anxiety and stress, anger management.
School Nurse	St Bede's School Nurse is Shani Jezard. Shani meets with Mrs Gallinagh half termly in school to discuss any concerns. If you feel you would like an appointment with the school nurse, please contact the pastoral team or Mrs Gallinagh on 01527525916
Jill Wallis – Early Intervention Family Support Worker	Jill works closely with school and attends every Monday to hold a drop-in session for pupils. She also will meet with parents and work with families should they feel they need more support. you would like an appointment with the school Jill Wallis, please contact the pastoral team or Mrs Gallinagh on 01527525916
Educational Psychologist – Daniel Rouse	School work very closely with the Education Psychologist Daniel Rouse. If you would like to find out more about this service and feel your child would benefit, please contact the pastoral team or Mrs Gallinagh on 01527525916
Parent Information Sessions	School hold regular Parent Information Sessions throughout the academic year, in a range of areas. We ask parents for feedback on what they would like to understand more about and we look at tailoring our information sessions to this.
Operation Encompass	School are part of Operation Encompass. Operation Encompass directly connects the police with schools to ensure better outcomes for children who are subject or witness to police-attended incidents of domestic abuse
Reach for Wellbeing	Reach for wellbeing support children with anxiety and they also run transition workshops in school for selected Year 8 pupils transitioning to high school. For more information please visit https://www.hacw.nhs.uk/starting-



	well/reach4wellbeing/ .
School PCSO	School work closely with the local PCSO's. They will support school in talking to the children about local or national crime issues. Or having a chat with the pupils about any concerns they have outside or inside of school.
Young Carers	School work with David King at the YSS. If you would like to find out more about Young Carers or get support either contact school or visit YSS website https://www.yss.org.uk/worcestershire-young-carers
The Sandycroft Centre	Offers a range of courses and support such as Reach4wellbeing and Counselling . Please visit the website or ring for more details. The Sandycroft Centre, West Avenue, Smallwood, Redditch, Worcestershire, B98 7DH. Telephone: 01527 595135 E-mail: info@sandycroft.org Website: www.sandycroft.org
Worcestershire Parenting Service	Groups for Parents (Worcestershire Parenting Service) – for more information on the group below, including days and venues, please visit www.bromsgroveandredditchparentingandfamilysupport.com or email parentingandfamilysupport@bromsgroveandredditch.gov.uk Or telephone: Bromsgrove: 01527 835775 Redditch: 01527 61360 <u>Birth and Beyond</u> Four weekly sessions, for 2 hours, ideally from 28 weeks pregnancy. Information and support on getting to know unborn baby, changes that will take place, giving birth, caring for baby etc. <u>PEEP</u> PEEP learning and activities helps parents to value and build on home learning environments and relationships with their children. <u>Family Link</u> Suitable for families with young children or young people aged birth to 19 years of age. Helps families to understand why children behave like they do, recognising feeling behind the behaviour and explores different approaches to discipline. <u>Triple P Discussion Group</u> Four, one off sessions. Suitable for families with pre-school children. Each session brings together about 10-12 parents



	<p>whom are experiencing the same parenting issues. They will be given tips and suggestions.</p> <p><u>Understanding Your Child</u> Suitable for families with young children or young people aged birth to 19 years of age. Supports parents to think about how relationships between and with parents and child or young people can be developed.</p> <p><u>Triple P 2-10 Years of Age</u> Positive parenting programme, which gives a toolbox of ideas. Parents choose the strategies they need.</p> <p><u>Teen Triple P</u> A group of parents of teenagers that enables parents and careers to cope positively with common issues associated with raising teens. Supports parents to build stronger relationships.</p> <p><u>Talking Teens: Family Links</u> Aims to improve the relationship between parents or carers and teenagers by developing parents understanding of communication, teenage development and influence of brain development on behaviour.</p> <p><u>Parenting Clinic</u> One to one consultation appointment service for parents with a parenting practitioner at a local centre</p>
<p>What is our Early Help Offer?</p>	<p>Early help guidance for professionals</p> <p>What is Early Help?</p> <p>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.</p> <p>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 what is the best support you can offer.</p> <p>You can provide effective support by:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • listening • working with other people who could help • finding out about specialist agencies who could help • filling out an Early Help Assessment with the person you are helping • contacting Children's Social Care if you think the problem is more serious



	<p>http://www.worcestershire.gov.uk/eha</p> <p>There is a lot of information and advice on the Advice, Care, Health and Support pages as well as detail of local services that can provide support for children, young people and families.</p> <p>Download: Worcestershire Safeguarding Children Board – Early Help Strategy 2017 to 2020</p> <p>Download: Worcestershire Special Educational Needs and Disabilities (SEND) strategy</p>
<p>The Front Door to Children’s Services</p> <p>(Previously: Children’s Helpdesk).</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>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 of 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>
<p>E-safety (Online Safety)</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</p>



	<p>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/</p> <p>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)</p> <p>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.</p> <p>www.internetmatters.org – A great site for helping parents keep their children safe online.</p>
<p>Mental Health</p>	<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) 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</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/</p> <p><i>Children & Teens</i></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 a profound impact on the child or young person's life.</p>
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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.
- Childrens 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; Neuro-developmental conditions including ADHD and ASD; complex behavioural difficulties; sensory impairment; statutory medical & educational assessments ([The Community Paediatric Service South Worcestershire](#), [The Community Paediatric](#)



	<p>Service Wyre Forest and The Community Paediatric Service Redditch and Bromsgrove)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Core Assets: Core Assets deliver the Independent Support Service in partnerships with Worcestershire County Council. They provide confidential, impartial and independent information and support for young people and their families to find their way through the changes to the Special Educational needs and Disabilities (SEND) systems. Please note: Core Assets Independent Support Programme will be closing on the 31 July 2018. Independent Support was always intended to be a time limited resource, supporting the transition from statements to EHCPs. From August 2018 onwards, parents, children and young people will continue to be able to access information, advice and support on statutory assessment and annual reviews from your local SENDIASS. • 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 Aids to Daily Living and Older People's Services • Dyslexia Parent Support Group. Find out more from the Worcestershire Dyslexic Support Group • Footprints Support for Bereaved Children and their Families in Worcestershire 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.
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<p>DDNs (Dangerous Drug Networks)</p>	<p>DDN's are drug dealing gangs who target vulnerable people in order to set up drugs 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)</p> <p>Drug Gangs and Exploitation (PDF, 556.6 KB)</p>
<p>Child Criminal Exploitation (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:</p> <p>https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/criminal-exploitation-of-children-and-vulnerable-adults-county-lines</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> <p>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.</p>



Key facts about CSE

- 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.

Documents

- [Appropriate Language: Child Sexual and/or Criminal Exploitation Guidance For Professionals \(CSE Police and Prevention website, opens in a new window\)](#)
- [Child Sexual Exploitation: Definition and a guide for practitioners \(GOV.UK website, opens in a new window\)](#)
- [Child Sexual Exploitation – Identification Tool](#)
- [Worcestershire Child Sexual Exploitation Strategy and Action Plan 2017 to 2019](#)
- [WSCB Multi-agency Child Sexual Exploitation Pathway](#)
- [WSCB CSE self assessment tool and guidance](#)

Making a referral

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

Useful Websites

- [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



	<p>parents and carers whose children are sexually exploited</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 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</p>	<p>Here is a very helpful website for what do to in many different difficult situations: http://www.worcestershire.gov.uk/info/20379/domestic-violence-and-sexual-abuse</p> <p>West Mercia Women's Aid: 0800 980 3331 0800 783 1359 helpline@westmerciawomensaid.org</p> <p>Further reading</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Controlling or Coercive Behaviour in an Intimate or Family Relationship Statutory Guidance Framework (GOV.UK website, opens in a new window) • Domestic Abuse - A toolkit for employers (Wellbeing.BIT website, opens in a new window) • Groups for parents - information and guidance • Multi-agency Statutory Guidance for the Conduct of Domestic Homicide Reviews (GOV.UK website, opens in a new window) • Worcestershire Domestic Abuse Strategy 2017 - 2020 (click to download) • Worcestershire Multi-agency domestic abuse training – Learning Outcomes (click to download)
<p>Teenage relationship abuse</p>	<p>Here is a great PDF helping to understand teenage relationship abuse: U:\U161 CHS\U695 Education Safeguarding\G3 SG\AAA .Education Adviser Safeguarding\G1 Mgt & Admin\03.Education Adviser -Safeguarding files\Admin Assisstant\A parents and carers guide to violence and abuse in teenage relationships.pdf</p>



	<p>Crush CRUSH is an awareness raising and support programme to help young people make safe and healthy relationships. The sessions are run in small groups and are specifically designed for 13-19 year olds. http://www.westmerciawomensaid.org/crush/</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. https://www.nhs.uk/conditions/Fabricated-or-induced-illness/</p>
<p>Faith abuse</p>	<p>Faith and belief-based child abuse, including practices around ‘spirit possession’ and ‘witchcraft’, is a hidden crime, which makes it difficult to quantify in terms of magnitude. However, from our own experience and in consultation with communities, we know this kind of abuse is under-reported. www.gov.uk/government/publications/national-actionplan-to-tackle-child-abuse-linked-to-faith-or-belief</p> <p>Further contacts for advice can be found from the local representatives for some faiths.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • An Exploration of Knowledge About Child Abuse Linked to Faith or Belief (2016) • National Action Plan to Tackle Child Abuse Linked to Faith or Belief (2012) • Safeguarding Children from Abuse Linked to a Belief in Spirit Possession (2007) this good practice guidance is archived but still available. • Eleanor Stobart report 2006: Child Abuse Linked To Accusations of Possession And Witchcraft (2006) • Unicef study report: Children Accused of Witchcraft



	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • AFRUCA: Africans Unite Against Child Abuse
<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>Read http://www.nhs.uk/Conditions/female-genitalmutilation for NHS information and signs of FGM. Any suspicion of FGM should be referred to the Police and social care.</p> <p>- Annalise Price-Thomas (Head of Service) has completed the online home office training, 'Female Genital Mutilation: Recognising and Preventing FGM' - 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 fmufco.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.</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>
<p>Gangs and youth violence</p>	<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>



	<p>This is a website for the Youth Violence Prevention Initiative: http://www.worcesterma.gov/youth-opportunities/youth-violence-prevention</p>
<p>Gender-based violence/violence against women and girls</p>	<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.</p> <p>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>
<p>Gender Identity Issues</p>	<p>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: 76 The Ridgeway, Astwood Bank, B96 6LX tel: 0845 231 0505 www.gendertrust.org.uk</p>
<p>Private fostering</p>	<p>National Fostering Agency (NFA) Call on: 0808 284 9226</p> <p>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</p>
<p>Preventing Radicalisation and Extremism/HATE (PREVENT duty)</p>	<p>www.educateagainsthate.com is the government website providing information and practical advice for parents, teachers</p>



	<p>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.ltai.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. Channel guidance: https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/425189/Channel_Duty_Guidance_April_2015.pdf</p>
<p>Sexting/Sextortion/youth produced imagery</p>	<p>http://www.nspcc.org.uk/preventing-abuse/keepingchildren-safe/sexting (NSPCC website). https://www.westmercia.police.uk/article/8206/Sexting (West Mercia Police website)</p>
<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. This is the link for Children Missing Education on the Worcestershire website</p>



	<p>http://www.worcestershire.gov.uk/info/20595/behaviour_and_attendance/293/children_missing_education</p> <p>Babcock Prime – Educational Welfare Team: Primeedinvservice@babcockinternational.com 01905 678138</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 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> <p>https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/missing-children-and-adults-strategy</p> <p>https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/117793/missing-persons-strategy.pdf</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.</p> <p>https://www.solgrid.org.uk/education/safeguarding/child-protection/issues/children-family-prison/</p>



<p>Children and the court system</p>	<p>Children are sometimes required to give evidence in courts, either for crimes committed against them or for crimes they have witnessed. There are two guides to support these children which can be found at www.gov.uk (young witness booklet for 5 to 11 year olds) which is a pdf. There is also a document called “going to court and being a witness age 12 to 17” which is also found at www.gov.uk. Making family arrangements via court can be stressful and entrench conflict in families. The ministry of Justice has just launched an online dispute resolution service. This can be useful to parents and carers. Got to www.gov.uk and search for “get help with arrangements.”</p>
<p>Stalking</p>	<p>General Advice:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ If it doesn't feel right it probably isn't! ▪ Seek support from trusted family/friends ▪ Report to the police and do this early ▪ Keep a diary in a secure location ▪ Screenshot emails etc and save them ▪ Photograph/video your stalker if safely possible. ▪ Get advice: Hollie Gazzard Trust, Paladin etc... ▪ Tighten security; home, work and on-line <p>National Stalking Helpline For advice and support. The helpline will operate a triage service for local support and make referrals - Phone: 0808 802 0300 Website: www.stalkinghelpline.org Email: advice@stalkinghelpline.org</p> <p>Paladin: National Stalking Advocacy Service For advice and referral. Phone line: 020 3866 4107 Email: info@paladinservice.co.uk Website: www.paladinservice.co.uk/</p> <p>Hollie Gazzard Trust https://holliegazzard.org/</p>
<p>Sexual violence and sexual harassment between children in schools and colleges</p>	<p>Here is advice from the WCC webpage: http://www.worcestershire.gov.uk/info/20379/domestic_abuse_and_sexual_violence/886/sexual_violence_and_abuse</p> <p>West Mercia Rape and Sexual Abuse Support Centre: https://www.wmrsasc.org.uk/ 01905 724 514 Helpline opening times:</p>



	Monday	7.30pm to 9.30pm
	Tuesday	1.00pm to 5.00pm
	Thursday	7.30pm to 9.30pm
	Friday	10.00am to 2.00pm