



Hempsted C of E Primary School

‘Growing Together in God’s Love.’

Early Help Offer

What is Early Help?

“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 Year 6”.

At Hempsted C of E Primary School we understand that, at times, family life can be challenging. We recognise that there may be situations where you need extra help and support. Our Early Help Offer identifies the need to help our children and families as soon as problems start to emerge, or when there is a strong likelihood that problems will develop in the future.

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

The Early Help Offer is an approach not a service.

Our aim is to promote the safety, well-being and resilience of all children and their families, so that they are able to be happy, healthy and meet their true potential.

We want all our children and young people, including those with Special Educational Needs and Disabilities (SEND), to achieve the best possible outcomes and receive the support they need when they need it most.

- All of our teachers are available in a pastoral capacity and parents are welcome to talk to them to discuss their child's wellbeing. If you need more than a quick word, please contact the school office to arrange an appointment or to ask for the teacher to give you a call.
- We also have a Pastoral Team who work closely with our children and families. Our Pastoral Lead, Mrs Russell, is available mornings at school drop offs for you to discuss any concerns or if preferred arrange a time for a private conversation.
- If you have a financial struggle, Mrs Russell can issue a food voucher for you to collect a parcel of three days' nutritionally balanced, non-perishable food from a local foodbank of your choice.
- Sometimes families may need more intensive support to help them through a challenge. We can make a referral to the Children & Young People's Multi-Agency Navigation Hub which brings together Education, Health and Early Help services to collectively provide advice, assessment, or intervention.
- We can request an Early Help Coordinator attends a 'Team Around the Family' meeting, or phone Early Help for advice.

- The school Pastoral Team in partnership with the Parish Pastoral Team run a weekly 'Coffee and Chat' for parents on Tuesday morning in the Lyson's Hall. All parents and little ones are welcome.
- We work closely with the Hempsted Parish Children and Families worker who supports children in school and is also able to offer support to our families outside of school.
- We have access to a therapist who comes into school to work with children who need extra support. If you are concerned about your child's mental health, please speak to Mrs Russell.
- We are supported by Young Minds Matter (YMM) for Schools and have a Young Minds Matter Educational Mental Health Practitioner. YMM provide support to for children and young people who may be experiencing mild to moderate or early symptoms of mental health problems, which tend to be outside the scope of traditional NHS services.

'Early Help' at our school is offered in the following areas in collaboration with other agencies:

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

The help we offer is delivered by a wide range of professionals including but not limited to:

- Educational Psychologists
- Advisory Teachers
- School Nursing Team
- GCC Inclusions Team
- Early Help Practitioners
- Early Help Social Workers
- Family Support Workers
- Play workers
- Therapists/psychotherapists
- Child mental health specialists
- Specialist behavioural support teachers and workers
- Gloucestershire Families First Plus Team
- Children's Services
- Police Community Support Officer (PCSO)
- Other agencies who are able to deliver targeted support

Please come and talk to us as there are many ways in which we can support you directly or signpost you to where you can access the help or support you need. We always take the time to listen to families. Sometimes, you might need to share information or have a difficult situation you need to make us aware of. We will listen. We have families too!

For information on Special Educational Needs and Disabilities please see our SEND Offer which can be found under the parents tab on our website.

Ruth Russell (September 2025)

Some useful information/contact details	
Children's Help Desk	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 Children's Help Desk on: 01452 426565 or in an emergency call 999 .
Gloucestershire Family Information Service (FIS)	This is a universal source of help for all families in Gloucestershire. The advisors working for this service give impartial information on childcare, finances, parenting and education. Contact the FIS by emailing: familyinfo@gloucestershire.gov.uk or telephone: (01452) 427362 . The website is www.glosfamilies.org
GSCB (Gloucestershire Safeguarding Children's Board)	http://www.gscb.org.uk Important information for parents and professionals across Gloucestershire in relation to keeping children safe and avenues of support including early help options.
E-Safety	Online activity 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 benefits, but we must all be vigilant. E-safety is part of our ongoing curriculum. PACE (parents against child exploitation) UK is a useful website to engage parents with e-safety issues. www.paceuk.info/ https://www.thinkuknow.co.uk/parents/-CEOP-centre https://educateagainsthate.com/ Radicalisation and how to keep children safe www.internetmatters.org for parents – how to keep their children safe online
Bullying (including cyberbullying)/child death/suicide prevention.	Hempsted C of E School is committed to tackling bullying. We have a series of teaching resources produced by the Gloucestershire healthy living and learning team (www.ghll.org.uk) to support this. In serious cases of bullying parents should contact the police; particularly if there are threats involved. In an emergency call 999. Other sources of help are http://www.bullying.co.uk
Children with multiple needs (vulnerable) or multiple needs (complex) requiring multi-agency input or assessment.	Within Gloucestershire, Early Help Partnership (co-ordinated by Families First Plus) provides multi-agency support for children and families. A phone call to discuss a possible referral is helpful before making written referral. Parents must consent to a referral. Targeted Support Teams (TST) Gloucester (01452 328071) https://www.gloucestershire.gov.uk/health-and-social-care/children-young-people-and-families/early-help-and-targeted-support/targeted-support/
Drug Concerns	www.infobuzz.co.uk/ InfoBuzz provides individual targeted support around drugs & emotional health issues, development of personal and social skills, information and support around substance misuse. www.onyourmindglos.nhs.uk – advice on drug/alcohol misuse https://www.rehab4addiction.co.uk/country-wide/drug-alcohol-rehab-gloucester
Mental Health Concerns	Young Minds Matter (supported by the Trailblazer programme): This intervention connects the services of school with NHS support. It is intended to provide early intervention on some mental health and emotional wellbeing issues, such as mild to moderate anxiety. Further information about the

	Trailblazer programme can be found at https://www.england.nhs.uk/mental-health/cyp/trailblazers/. Referral to CYPS (Gloucestershire's mental health services) via your own GP. www.onyourmindglos.nhs.uk – a newly launched website by Gloucestershire as part of the Future in Mind Programme. Let's Talk Well (Previously Teens in Crisis) hello@letstalkwell.org.uk 01594 372777 www.infobuzz.co.uk/
Domestic Violence	Gloucestershire Domestic Abuse Support Service (GDASS) www.gdass.org.uk Telephone 01452 726570 E-mail support@gdass.org.uk SPLITZ https://www.splitz.org/gloucestershire.html
Female Genital Mutilation (FGM)	http://www.nhs.uk/Conditions/female-genital-mutilation for NHS information and signs of FGM. FGM is illegal in the UK and as of October 2015 mandatory reporting commenced. E-learning package- http://www.fgmlearning.co.uk/
Gangs and youth violence	Contact the Avenger Task Force (Gloucestershire Police tel: 101) A task force set up to identify potential gang members as vulnerable individuals and potential victims and aims to help them.