

# Matchborough First School **Academy**



Matchborough First School  
Academy Early Help Offer

# Early Help for Children and Families at Matchborough First School Academy

Providing early help to our pupils and families at Matchborough First School Academy 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.

At Matchborough First School Academy, our Safeguarding team meet regularly to discuss any concerns. This team includes:

Mrs Briers- Head teacher -Safeguarding Lead

Mrs Abbott - Deputy Head teacher - Deputy Safeguarding Lead

Miss Frampton- Family support worker

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.

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

- Routines and family rules
- Families who may 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.

**At Matchborough First School Academy we meet the needs of our children through a variety of ways:**

**Pupil Voice** - 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. .

- Children's questionnaires ascertain if they feel happy and safe
- E-safety assembly delivered to all pupils
- E-safety presentation offered to parents
- Our local policing team visit the school regularly.
- The children have a Speak Out assembly provided by the NSPCC annually.
- The Family Support Worker is available every day for children who need to offload or talk about their emotions.
- Our School council coordinated by Mrs Clarke meet once a fortnight.
- Children are praised through our Do-Jo reward system.
- The DSL team meet with our community social worker Jeff Barnard termly.

### **Attendance**

Mrs Briers is the lead on attendance. She monitors this weekly and follows our attendance policy to support pupils and families with attendance below 90%. The aim is to offer help and solutions to any problems.

The school operates a first day response system which means that parents are contacted by phone or text if their child is absent without reason.

### **Safeguarding**

- All teachers and staff know precisely how to identify and report concerns, via staff training on induction and our regular updates on safeguarding.
- Staff report concerns using our online system, CPOMS, if a child has made a disclosure or they are concerned about the child.
- Child protection files are kept securely and in line with GDPR.
- Attendance team follow missing from education guidance.
- All new staff complete safeguarding inductions.
- Miss Bird and Miss Abbott is our designated lead for Looked after children.

Annually, the staff are required to read and sign to show understanding of the following documents:

- Keeping Children Safe In Education
- Safeguarding Policy
- Staff Handbook
- Code of Conduct

### **Behaviour for Learning at Matchborough First School Academy**

Pupils are rewarded through our Do-Jo system. Children's behaviour is rewarded at the end of every half term with a presentation assembly.

### **Pastoral Support**

Sharon Frampton works with pupils and families to support their needs whilst also signposting them to relevant agencies. With families consent, we can refer families for further family support.

### **SENCO**

Miss Bird works with children and families with additional needs and can signpost parents to many different agencies.

### **Designated Safeguarding Lead (DSL)**

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

## **Local Services**

Below is information on the services available in our local area:

### **Family Hub -**

Holly Trees Children's Centre

St Stephen's First School, Mabey Avenue, Riverside, Redditch B98 8HW

Contact Number: 01905 520 032

Opening times: Monday - Friday 9:00am - 4:30pm

### **What's on during the school holidays? (Ready Steady Worcestershire, Youth Groups, clubs and activities -**

Ready Steady Worcestershire provide details of holiday clubs, see link below. Up to date information will also be sent out via email before the holidays.

<https://www.worcestershire.gov.uk/council-services/childrens-services/virtual-family-hub/ready-steady-worcestershire-holiday>

**Youth and Community Centre -**

Your Ideas Youth and Community Project

Dilwyn Cl, Redditch B98 0BU

Contact Number: 01527 502624

Opening Times: Monday - Sunday Times Vary

**Foodbank -**

Redditch Foodbank

Number 24, Church Green E, Redditch B98 8DE

Contact Number: 01527 69161

Opening Times: Monday - Thursday 11am - 2pm, Friday 10am-1pm

**Early Help Family Support District Team -**

<https://www.worcestershire.gov.uk/council-services/childrens-services/early-help-family-support>

**Library -**

Redditch Library

15 Market Pl, Redditch B98 8AR

Contact Number: 01905 822722

Opening Times: Monday, Wednesday, Friday, Saturday 9am-5pm, Tuesday and Thursday 9am-7pm.

**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** offer a range of health services which support both children and families experiencing a range of health issues.

[Worcestershire Health Visiting Service | Starting Well \(startingwellworcs.nhs.uk\)](https://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-3pm).

A Health Visitor will assist you over the phone with any worries, concerns, or questions you have.

[School Health Nursing | Starting Well \(startingwellworcs.nhs.uk\)](https://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 | Latest news, updates and opportunities | Starting Well (startingwellworcs.nhs.uk)

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

*TO CONFIDENTIALY 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.

[I am worried about my Child's mental health | Herefordshire and Worcestershire Health and Care NHS Trust \(hacw.nhs.uk\)](https://hacw.nhs.uk)

[Home - Kooth](https://www.kooth.com)

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://www.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://www.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://www.whct.nhs.uk)

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

[Sexual health | 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](https://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://www.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:

[Anti-Bullying \(worcestershires.gov.uk\)](https://www.worcestershire.gov.uk/anti-bullying)

[Helping Children Deal with Bullying & Cyberbullying | NSPCC](#)

<https://www.kidscape.org.uk/resources-and-publications/>

### **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:

- <https://www.thinkuknow.co.uk/parents/>
- [Online safety | Barnardo's \(barnardos.org.uk\)](#)
- <http://educateagainsthate.com/>
- [www.internetmatters.org](http://www.internetmatters.org)
- <https://www.bbc.com/ownit/the-basics/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](#)

<https://www.thinkuknow.co.uk/parents/articles/Nude-selfies-a-parents-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 | Worcestershire County Council](#)

CRUSH is an awareness raising and support programme to help young people make safe and healthy relationships. [Children and Young People Services | West Mercia Women's Aid \(westmerciawomensaid.org\)](#)

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

# SEND (Special Educational Needs and/or Disabilities)

Miss Bird is our school SENDCo. Please contact Miss Bird via the school office if you wish to discuss any concerns you have about your child and their SEND needs.

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

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



**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.

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



**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.

To download this booklet, please visit: [Early Help in Worcestershire - Support for Families](#)

## 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.

[Worcestershire Young Carers/Shropshire Young Carers | YSS](#)

[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:

### **Redditch Job Centre**

4th floor, Library, 15 Market Pl, Redditch B98 8AR

Contact number: 0800 169 0190

Opening times: Monday - Friday 9am-5pm

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

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

[Parenting, health and wellbeing, housing and relationship support | Worcestershire County Council](#)

## **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 \(startingwellworcs.nhs.uk\)](http://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 \(home-startsw.org.uk\)](http://home-startsw.org.uk)

## **Family Information Service**

Do you need advice and support around finding childcare? The following link will provide you with guidance: [Childcare | Worcestershire County Council](#)

## **Substance Misuse**

[Swanswell - Cranstoun](#)

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](#)

Families First provides support and guidance in a safe space, to enable the whole family to cope with the demands of having a partner, and parent, in prison:

[About Us | YSS](#)

## **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 Safe](#) for help and information:

[What is 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 with further advice and support.***