



**Offer of Early Help
2018/2019**

The Early Help Offer is an approach not a service.

Providing early help is more effective in promoting the welfare of children rather than reacting later on. Early help means providing support as soon as a problem emerges.

It respects every family's right to access information to help manage their own lives successfully, whilst guiding them to seek support from appropriate sources.

The 'Offer' is for all children, as issues may arise at any point in a child or young person's life. It includes both universal and targeted /specialist services, to reduce or prevent concerns from growing or becoming any more serious.

- Help is there when parents, children and young people need it 'nipping problems in the bud'
- Together we will find a way forward that is right for everyone – there is a choice of help and it will be easy to access
- Families are at the centre of everything we do
- There are a number of support agencies that parents/carers can contact independently. Staff can signpost to relevant support.
- Gloucestershire Local Authority have an Offer of Early help with outlines some of the support

Forest Families First Plus Team

This is a network of Early Help co-ordinators and community support workers who work alongside other professionals. With parental consent, we are able to make a referral for support to this team. They will meet and decide who will be best placed to meet the required needs.

School Nurse

All schools have links to a school nurse. We are able to give you contact details and advice about the services they provide.

Radicalisation

"Radicalisation" refers to the process by which a person comes to support terrorism and forms of extremism leading to terrorism. Extremism can take several forms, including Islamist extremism, far-right and animal rights. Staff have been trained in line with the new Prevent Duty (2014)

Preventing Radicalisation: <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/channel-guidance>

Esafty

Technology is constantly changing as is how we keep people safe whilst still enjoying the many benefits of using the internet. Staff undergo regular esafty training every two years. We also hold a parent meeting at this time to keep parents informed. We use outside experts to deliver this and train our staff. Lessons are delivered to children on a yearly basis with ongoing reminders and discussions. The CEOP website offers some really useful guidance <http://thinkyouknow.co.uk> <http://www.childnet.com/resources/> There is also guidance and practical advice on the NSPCC website: NSPCC.org.uk

Mental health

If a child needs support we will signpost to the most relevant support. This may be medical support, advisory support or a counselling service. We will refer to a school nurse, 'Families First' or CAMHS (Children and adolescence mental health services) if needed. www.youngminds.org.uk

Domestic Abuse

Support for parents/carers who are affected by domestic abuse or know someone that is, can be accessed as follows:

Call the Police (999 in an emergency or 101 for a non-emergency situation.)

National Domestic Violence Helpline – 0808 2000 247

Contact GDASS – Gloucestershire Domestic Abuse Support Service- on 0845 602 9035.

GDASS can help you:

- And your child stay safe in your own home.
- Access specialist legal advice
- With other agencies (e.g. housing and benefits)
- Find a place of safety if you cannot stay at home or can help you move on

Private fostering/Looked after children

We work with the virtual school to support all children and families. We are involved in the regular PEP reviews.

A private arrangement between a child's parent and the foster parents. Children are privately fostered if they live with someone for 28 days or more, or are placed with the intention that they will stay for 28 days or more.

Private fostering applies to children under 16 years of age (or 18 if they are disabled) and doesn't include arrangements made between close relatives. A close relative is an aunt, uncle, step-parent, grandparent or sibling, but not a cousin, great aunt/uncle or a family friend.

The law requires the private foster carer to notify the Local Authority of the agreement at least 6 weeks before the arrangement or within 48 hours of the child's arrival if it is an emergency placement.

If our school becomes aware of a private fostering arrangement, we will contact the **Children and Families Helpdesk (01452 426565)** to ensure that the LA have been notified.

<http://www.gloucestershire.gov.uk/privatefostering>

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/children-act-1989-private-fostering>

Bereavement

We provide a safe, supportive environment for the children. We will refer to a school nurse, 'Families First' or CAMHS (Children and adolescence mental health services) if needed. Winston's Wish – www.winstonswish.org.uk are a charity offering support for bereaved children.

Female Genital Mutation (FGM)

Staff have been trained to recognise signs of FGM. Safeguarding procedures will be followed if a child is deemed to be at risk.

Other useful Websites

Housing advice and support

www.shelter.org.uk/Housing-Advice-

Forest of Dean District Council Housing Association can offer support with housing issues. www.fdean.gov.uk

Family Information Service

www.gloucestershire.gov.uk/FIS. They offer support about parenting, child care, financial matters, children's activities in Gloucestershire, Special educational needs support and advice on school changes.

Barnardos Family Support Service

http://www.barnardos.org.uk/gloucestershire/gloucestershire_what_we_do/sw_barnardos_in_Gloucestershire-parent_family.htm

Drugs and Alcohol Support

Gloucestershire Drugs and Alcohol Support www.gdas.co.uk

Gangs and Youth Violence

Contact the Avenger Task Force at Gloucestershire Constabulary.

https://www.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/418131/Preventing_youth_violence_and_gang_involvement_v3_March2015.pdf

Gender-based Violence/Violence against Women and Girls (VAWG)

<https://www.gov.uk/government/policies/violence-against-women-and-girls>

Honour Based Violence

The police have made a high priority to help communities tackle this and hate crime.
Honour Network Helpline 0800 5999247

Sexting www.ceop.police.uk

Teenage Relationship Abuse

<https://www.gov.uk/government/collections/this-is-abuse-campaign>

Trafficking <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/safeguarding-children-who-may-have-been-trafficked-practice-guidance>