Supporting Families

The Beacon Primary Pupil Referral Unit

At The Beacon Pupil Referral Unit 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 our unit can help and support you and your family as outlined in this offer of early help.

We can help to plan specific support for families by following the Early Help Pathway, meaning we can carry out a whole family early help assessment where extra support is identified. We will work with you as a family to work together to set and achieve positive outcomes in a family plan.

Providing early help to our pupils and families at The Beacon Pupil Referral Unit means we are more effective in promoting support as soon as we can. Early help in schools 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 and beyond.

In Keeping Children Safe in Education 2025 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 may need help at some time in their lives and therefore an ethos of early help is important for any school or Pupil Referral Unit.

The coordinated offer of Early Help is outlined in the table below. We believe that early interventions for children and families, in many cases, will prevent needs from escalating into statutory services.

All staff must be aware of the offer of early help. At all times, staff should consider if there is any offer of early help that we can make to help a child thrive through using the Early Help Pathway.

We also liaise with other agencies and people within the local community. In the table below are some National organisations that can support children, young people and their families.

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

Effective early help relies upon local organisations and agencies working together therefore we liaise with other agencies and people within the local community. In the table below are some National and local organisations that can support children, young people and their families

At The Beacon we meet the needs of our children through a variety of ways, including:

- Pastoral Support
- Staff dedicated Mental Health First Aiders x 1
- SENCO
- Designated Safeguarding Lead (DSL)
- Staff have been training in aspects such as Attachment and Trauma, Mental Health and Well-Being
- A robust Mental Health curriculum
- PSHE programme – our school delivers Personal, Social, Health and Education and Economics (PHSE) and Relationship and Sex Education (RSE) programmes through JIGSAW. This programme empowers children to understand how to build and maintain their mental health, using mindfulness philosophy and practice to enable them to understand their emotions and choose their response
- Outside agencies such as SEND services, SALT, Educational Psychologist, Music Psychotherapist, CAMHS and the school nurse.

Worcestershire's Virtual Family Hub has lots of useful information and links to resources.
https://www.worcestershire.gov.uk/virtual-family-hub

The Trussell Trust supports a network of food banks across the UK that offer essential food supplies and practical assistance to people struggling to afford food.	the trussell trust Stop UK Hunger HUNGER FREE FUTURE Registered charity in England & Wales (1110522) and Scotland (SC044246). https://www.trussell.org.uk/
Bereavement Support for bereaved children and their families in Worcestershire.	WINSTON'S WISH Giving hope to grieving children https://winstonswish.org

"Single parents, equal families" – providing expert advice, practical support and campaign for single parents. Fact sheets available to download from the website.	www.gingerbread.org.uk
The Eve Project : Domestic Abuse Service Information.	https://eveda.org.uk/
Provides care and support for patients and families.	primrosehospice.org
Support for children and families through art and crafts – aiming to build self-esteem, confidence and communication skills.	https://www.bensgroups.co.uk/