



Early Help for Children and Families Rushwick C of E Primary School An Annex for Early Help COVID 19

At Rushwick 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 school 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 Rushwick 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 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 may need help at some time in their lives and therefore an ethos of early help is important for any school or PRU.

The coordinated Rushwick 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 Rushwick 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 in order 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

<p>Rushwick Offer of Early Help</p>	<p>For our children Early Help means providing support as soon as a problem appears, to stop it getting worse. This could be at any point during their time at school. At Rushwick The THRIVE APPROACH plays an integral part of our support for emotional and mental wellbeing. Through the use of Thrive online assessments and by talking and listening to our children and families we are able to identify unmet needs and strive together to find ways to address these. We believe strongly in taking the time to listen to children’s and family concerns. We have two THRIVE trained practitioners, Mrs Staples and Mrs Hulls, who are available to chat to pupils when they feel they have a problem they would like to share. These staff will happily meet with parents too as part of this Thrive support.</p> <p>Children can also ask for help through a “Worry Box” situated at the front of the school hall. Worries shared are addressed by staff members on a regular basis either one to one or through whole school/class assemblies.</p> <p>School staff will listen to any parents and carers concerns and can direct them to one of our members of school staff who can help. We have two DSLs, a SENDCo and 2 Thrive Practitioners who can support by listening and identifying the best way to support with changes in children’s behaviours, changes in family circumstances and will help by finding specialist agencies who can help or filling out Early Help Assessment .</p> <p>We have an effective PSHCE curriculum which supports children and develops key skills not only for school but for life, including skills to develop positive sense of self and abilities.</p> <p>Our SEND support will also provide support for children and their families for example through referrals to Speech and Language Therapy, Occupational Therapy or Reach for Wellbeing support.</p> <p>I CAN have produced some resources to support parents and carers with children and young people with speech, language and communication needs. A range of information, strategies and factsheets can be found here: https://ican.org.uk/i-cans-talking-point/parents/resources/</p>
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<p>Early Help Offer in COVID 19</p>	<p>During the current pandemic it may be that families have additional unmet needs which have occurred as a result of COVID-19 for example affecting their ability to work; see family who usually provide a network of support; pay rent; provide meals for their families; mental health problems as a result of isolation and concerns over spread of the pandemic; domestic abuse; children being out of school following lockdown (home schooling concerns and support when returning to school).</p> <p>Our DSLs, SENDCo and Thrive Practitioners can support by listening and signposting parents and carers to specialist agencies who can help or through working together using the Early Help Pathway to carry out whole family early help assessments and plans</p> <p>https://www.worcestershire.gov.uk/eha</p> <p>Support in relation to Mental Health and wellbeing https://www.hacw.nhs.uk/reach4wellbeing/ https://www.hacw.nhs.uk/cast or https://www.hacw.nhs.uk/specialist-camhs https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/covid-19-guidance-on-supporting-children-and-young-peoples-mental-health-and-wellbeing</p> <p>Advice in relation to keeping children safe from abuse and harm https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/coronavirus-covid-19-keeping-children-safe-from-abuse-and-harm/advice-to-parents-and-carers-on-keeping-children-safe-from-abuse-and-harm</p> <p>Advice in relation to employment and benefits can be found here https://www.understandinguniversalcredit.gov.uk/employment-and-benefits-support/</p> <p>Guidance for online education resources for home learning provided by the DfE with resources and additional tips for schools and parents to help children to learn at home during the coronavirus (COVID-19) outbreak. https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/coronavirus-covid-19-online-education-resources</p>



	<p>Free School Meals advice https://www.gov.uk/apply-free-school-meals</p> <p>Public Health England can provide guidance https://www.gov.uk/government/organisations/public-health-england</p> <p>The following web sites will offer further advice in relation to Coronavirus https://www.nhs.uk/conditions/coronavirus-covid-19/ http://www.worcestershire.gov.uk/info/20324/advice_care_health_and_support http://www.worcestershire.gov.uk/coronavirus</p>
<p>Here 2 help</p>	<p>This is part of Worcestershire's response to Covid19.</p> <p>By accessing this, parents can be signposted to community support in their own community so that support is sustainable and bespoke for the families in your school's community.</p> <p>http://www.worcestershire.gov.uk/here2help , or call 01905 768053.</p>
<p>Starting well</p>	<p>The Starting Well service has a parenting and community team that can offer on line and telephone support for parents, as well as parenting courses.</p> <p>The parenting team can offer 1-1 parenting advice over the phone as well as virtual parenting groups around issues such as support with children's behaviour, anxiety, eating and sleeping routines etc, and can also signpost to agencies that can support parents in their own community. In addition to this the parenting team can also support parenting to complete Solihull on line, as well as Birth and Beyond for expectant parents.</p> <p>The school nursing service can remain in contact with primary, middle and high schools via phone and email. They are providing a Chat health texting service for young people and can also provide consultations via WebEx. The School Nurse team can also offer a call or WebEx monthly session for all vulnerable families.</p> <p>https://www.startingwellworcs.nhs.uk/</p>
<p>Supporting happy parental relationships</p>	<p>We recognise that during Covid 19 parental relationships maybe under pressure for several reasons, whether parents are living together in the family home or not. This website contains a range of self-help information and links to support.</p> <p>http://www.worcestershire.gov.uk/info/20793/here2help_supporting_happy_parental_relationships</p>

