**Stow on the Wold Primary School**

**Early Help Policy**

At Stow on the Wold Primary school staff are trained in recognising the signs of Child Abuse and Extremism and are committed to and know the benefit of Early Help as a way of supporting families and young people before their needs become acute and Social Care or other specialist intervention may be necessary.

The school has a range of robust safeguarding procedures in place which puts the safety and protection of children at the heart of any decisions. The school’s safeguarding team is made up of the following school personnel:

* Designated Safeguarding Lead (DSL) – Mrs Rebecca Scutt
* Deputy Designated Safeguarding Leads (DDSL) – Mrs Alison swallow Mrs Elizabeth Hamilton, Ms Alison James
* Safeguarding Governors Dr Dilys Neill, Mrs A Swallow

The DSL and all DDSLs complete inter-agency safeguarding training on a two yearly programme. All other school staff complete safeguarding training on a three yearly basis and are updated regularly to any changes in legislation.

# Reporting Concerns

If any member of school suspects that a child may be at risk of harm or who has been harmed they will report the incident through the schools email reporting system. The email is received by all members of the safeguarding team. Staff are expected to report a concern as soon as possible through the reporting system. If a member of staff believes that a child is at risk of or has been subjected to significant harm then this must be reported immediately via email and then in person to either the school’s DSL or one of the DDSLs.

It is school policy that at least two members of the safeguarding team will be on site at any one time and that one of these must be the DSL or a DDSL. This enables all concerns to be reviewed by at least two members of the team at any one time and an appropriate course of action decided upon.

The primary aim of the school’s Early Help systems is to try to intervene early with families before it gets to the stage when a child may be at risk of harm.

**Involvement of Families**

The school will always involve the family in all Early Help strategies and most will only be put in place with their permission. The school will aim to work with families in a supportive, non-judgemental way so that trust is built up and the best possible outcomes achieved.

There are occasions, however, when the school’s safeguarding team or member of school staff may believe that a child may be at immediate risk of significant harm and that by informing the parents/carers of the concern may put the child at further risk. In these cases the school will implement section 47 procedures. This will involve an immediate referral to social care without the parents/carers knowledge.

# School Indicators for Children or Families That May Require Early Help

The following list provides examples of areas where, without intervention a family may break down or a child may be put a risk of neglect, emotional, physical or sexual harm. This also includes the risk of extremism. The school has no pre-prescribed criteria for supporting children and families. Each case is assessed according to needs and a bespoke programme put in place for that child and/or family:

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| **Indicator** | **Indicator** | **Indicator** | **Indicator** |
| Low Parenting Skills  Substance/Alcohol Abuse  Domestic Abuse  Child Mental Health  Bereavement  Child Unaware of Danger and How to Keep Themselves Safe  Extremist views | Poor Diet - Obesity,  Malnourished  Young Carer  Breakdown in community  relationships Adult Mental Health  Changes in Behaviour and  Risk of Exclusion  Child Demonstrates  Sexualised Behaviours | Low Income or Poverty  Breakdown in family  relationships  Isolation  Disability of a Child  Poor Attendance and  Punctuality  Frequent House or School  Moves | Limited Community Integration  Transport  Special Educational Needs (refer to Local and School offer) Disability of an Adult  Child Unaware of How to Keep  Themselves Safe Online  Cleanliness and Hygiene |

**EXAMPLE EARLY HELP** The school has divided its Early Help strategies into 4 areas:

* Universal Support is for all and is what all children and families would normally receive,
* Community Support is for a child or family who may need some extra support,
* Specific Support is for children and families who need specialist support
* Crisis Support is where a child or their family need a high level of support to prevent harm.

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| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Universal Support** | **Community Support** | **Specialist Support** | **Crisis Support** | |
| Family  Friends  School Staff  Nursery staff  Governors  Parent Teacher Association  Breakfast Club  After School Clubs  Children’s centre staff  Keep Safe Work  Parent Support Advisor offers of early help:   * Telephone/email contact and support for parents. * Home visits * Referrals into statutory and charitable service. * Liaising with organisations and | **Our Multi-Agency Team:**  Cluster Head Teachers  Local Police Officers  Local Health Visitors  Local Midwives  Local School Nurses  Local Housing Officers  Local Home Start Manager  Community Social Worker  Parent Support Advisor  Family Support Worker  Children’s centre staff and  Manager  School Safeguarding Team  Police Community Support  Officers (PCSOs)  Local GP  School Nurse  District/County Council | **Mental Health For Children**  CYPS emotional well-being team  CYPS referrals  MIND.org website  PAPYRUS Anxietybc.org  CINCH  1:1 Therapy from Specialist Therapists  Children and Young People's Services  (CYPS)  **Mental Health for Adults**  Referrals to Cotswold Counselling  Referrals to AXIS well-being  Letters/phone calls to G.P Accompanying parents to mental health appointments  Working with mental health team  **Bereavement Support**  Winston’s Wish  SWITCH Programme  CRUISE – bereavement counselling for | Social Care - Child  Protection (CP), Child in  Need (CIN)  School Safeguarding Team  Social Worker  Police - Police Protection  Order (PPO)  Courts - Care Proceedings  Counselling  Channel Panel  **Local Support for Families and Groups**  Referral to Young Carers  Referral to Family Lives  Referral to Home Start  Targeted Support Team  (TST)  Parenting Courses  (Webster Stratton, Triple  P, Families and Schools | |
| **Universal Support** | **Community Support** | **Specialist Support** | **Crisis Support** |
| professionals   * Continue to build and work as part of a local multi-agency team. * Behaviour and emotional support and advice given. * Carry out CAF assessments. * Support given to complete forms and applications.     Community Clubs (i.e. sports, arts etc.)    Rotary Club  Northleach Lions Club  Local clergy | Food Bank  LA SEN Team  LA Transport Team  Churches and Religious  Leaders  Housing Association –  Fosseway housing  Bromford Housing  Landlords  Young Carers  Citizens Advice Bureau  Job Centre  Traveller Support Services  Army Support Services  Interpreter  Education Entitlement and  Inclusion Team (EEI)  Children's Centre  ArtSpace  Paediatrician  Counselling  Play Therapy  Communication with Previous  Settings | parents samaritans  **Domestic Violence**  GDASS  Cotswold Domestic abuse Support  **Divorce/Separating Families**  Cheltenham Family Mediation  CORUM – online legal advice  CINCH – counselling for children  **Finances/Housing**  Rural CRB  Referrals to P3  Liaising with housing officers  Support to complete benefit claims.  **Food/Clothes/Christmas**  Foodbank vouchers issued  Application to local charity for clothes, shoes and uniform.  Second hand uniform stock held. Christmas presents, stocking fillers and Christmas food given.  **School Admissions and Transport** Support to complete free school meal application  Support to apply to schools  Support to appeal, including letters of support.  Escort and advocate at tribunals | Together (FAST)  Functional Family Therapy **Local Support for Families and Groups**  Referral to Young Carers  Referral to Family Lives  Referral to Home Start  Targeted Support Team  (TST)  School Safeguarding Team  Social Care (Initial/Core  Assessment)  Parenting Courses  (Webster Stratton, Triple  P, Families and Schools  Together (FAST)  Functional Family Therapy Education, Entitlement  and Inclusion Team (EEI)  NSPCC  Child Exploitation and  Online Protection Centre  (CEOP)  Channel Panel |