



# Westhouses Primary School

## EARLY HELP OFFER



### What is Early Help?

Early help means providing support to our children and families at Westhouses Primary School as soon as a problem emerges, at any point in a child's life.

We understand just how complicated family life can be. From time to time, there may be situations where you need some extra help and support.

If things are not right at home, please come and talk to us.

We can help in many ways.

At Westhouses Primary School, we pride ourselves in knowing the children well: we are alert to the welfare of our children and are vigilant regarding any situation in which we can provide support.

We have a number of systems in place to help and we seek at all times to work in collaboration with families, with openness, integrity and understanding and with the needs of the child at the centre of all we do.

Early Help is everyone's responsibility. You can speak with any member of the school team who would be happy to work with you or pass your concerns on to one of our Early Help team.

Early Help is vital because there is clear evidence that it results in better outcomes for children.

Our Early Help Team are:

- Mrs Whitby, Headteacher and Designated Safeguarding Lead (DSL)
- Mrs Coupe, Early Years Leader and DSL
- Mrs Tucker, Positive Play Lead
- Mrs Tomlinson, Family Support Officer (FSO)

### 1. Support for all children and families

We have an 'open door' policy to communicate, providing time to talk to all parents, children and families, to ensure all children are safe, happy and learning.

We are available to talk via telephone and face to face and provide time for our parents to communicate and work with us (eg. Through structured conversations, Parents Evening meetings and good daily availability)

Our children are actively encouraged to speak about any concerns they have to a member of staff.

- They know that our staff take all their concerns very seriously and they know that they can speak to any adult in school.
- The Children's Voice is also represented by the School Council, which regularly meets with Mrs Russell
- We liaise with our School Positive Play Lead to provide talk time for any child who needs it.

We have an effective PSHE curriculum which supports children and develops key skills, not only for school but for life.

- School Health
- Health Visiting Team
- Medical support
- Behaviour Support Services
- Speech Therapists
- Autism Outreach
- Educational Psychology
- Local Police Community Support Officers
- DIASS (Derbyshire Information Advisory and Support Service)
- Talking Mental Health
- SSSEN service

### 3. Beyond Early Help

We can seek further support to best support children and families

If the support we can offer and source for you just isn't enough then we can request further support and intervention.

This may be to Children and Families Services via a referral to Starting Point.

If your family experiences a crisis or a safeguarding emergency referral is made then a social worker may become involved.

We will continue to support children and families.

Mrs Whitby and/or Mrs Tomlinson will attend meetings and provide reports.

The following members of staff are trained  
**DESIGNATED SAFEGUARDING LEADS:**

Mrs Whitby

Mrs Coupe

#### USEFUL CONTACTS:

***If you think a child is at risk of harm always phone CALL DERBYSHIRE: 01629 533190***

- ❖ Domestic abuse support and information services in Derbyshire: 0800 019 8668
- ❖ DIASS - Derbyshire Information Advice & Support Service for S E N D: 01629 533668
- ❖ School Health Team: 01246 515100
- ❖ Citizen's Advice Bureau: 0300 456 8390
- ❖ Derbyshire Recovery Partnership (alcohol / drugs): 0845 308 4010
- ❖ Talking Mental Health Derbyshire: 0300 123 0542
- ❖ P3 Derbyshire Homelessness Service: 0115 972 9874

If you have any questions please contact us:

- Mrs Whitby, Headteacher, Designated Safeguarding Lead (DSL) and SENDCO
- Mrs Coupe, Early Years and KS1 Leader and DSL
- Mrs Tucker, Positive Play Lead
- Mrs Tomlinson, Family Support Officer

01773 832518 [info@westhouses.derbyshire.sch.uk](mailto:info@westhouses.derbyshire.sch.uk)