



HOLBROOK CofE PRIMARY SCHOOL:

EARLY HELP OFFER

Updated September 2022

What is Early Help?

Early help means providing support to our children and families as soon as a problem emerges. Family life can be complicated and sometimes you may need some support. If you have a problem at home or something you would like help or advice with, please get in touch – we can support you in lots of ways.

Early help is everyone's responsibility. Mrs Taylor, Miss Slaney and Mrs Swinfield lead our Early Help team, but you can speak to any member of staff. Anything we do at early help level, we do together, with your family, supporting you to make changes.

Our Early Help Team:

- Mrs Taylor, Headteacher and Designated Safeguarding Lead (DSL)
- Mrs Slaney, Class teacher and Deputy DSL
- Mrs Swinfield, School Business Officer and Deputy DSL

Our Early Help Offer:

1. Support for all: 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 – this could be through a meeting, parents evenings or phone calls for example.

We encourage children to raise any worries with us and, through our PSHE curriculum, we teach them how to ask for help, how to look after their mental and physical well-being, and what constitutes healthy relationships.

2. Targeted support: We can work more closely with families and children who need some extra support. Our team in school can provide lots of advice on issues including:

- Toileting
- establishing routines
- supporting learning or good behaviour
- parenting tips and tricks

We can look at a variety of interventions or personalised programmes to address issues like this. We can also look at SEND funding pathways or referrals – you will always be fully involved in these processes and in deciding what is the best way to support your family.

If it is appropriate, Mrs Taylor might complete an Early Help Assessment with you, a document which gives a rounded picture of your family's circumstances and issues which you would like help with. Completing this 'Early Help Assessment' will often help school access more specialised outside

agencies or charities, projects or courses which could help further. This document will pull together a plan to help you identify what changes you can make as a family to address any areas you have highlighted. We would always complete this with parents or carers, and with your consent.

We use the Derbyshire Partnership Threshold Document to guide our Early Help support. You can read these thresholds here: [threshold-document-december-2019.pdf \(derbyshire.gov.uk\)](#)

For any Early Help Support, we will often work with the Derbyshire Early Help Team and the Early Help Development Team, with parent/carer consent.

Support agencies we link with:

- School Health Services including CAMHS (Child and Adolescent Mental Health Services) and the School Nurse Service
- Behaviour Support Services
- Speech Therapists
- Autism Outreach
- Educational Psychology
- Local Police Community Support Officers
- DIASS (Derbyshire Information Advisory and Support Service)
- SSEN service

We can also signpost you to a range of local or national support services offering more specialised support.

Some areas which we can signpost families to include:

- Mental health or well-being groups or resources including 'Bridge the Gap' and Action for Children
- Financial support assistance/welfare benefit support
- Food banks
- Domestic abuse networks such as The Elms Foundation
- Housing support organisations
- SEND networks including Umbrella and Sunshine Support

We publish on our website contact details for a range of local organisations dealing with these issues and more.

If you have any questions please contact us on the school number 01332 880277 or by email on info@holbrook.derbyshire.sch.uk.

If you think any child may be at risk of harm please contact:

CALL DERBYSHIRE 01629 533190

If any child is an immediate risk, call the police on 999