



Bledington Primary School

Early Help Policy

Date of Ratification: 25.01.2018 08.07.21 18.01.24	Updated 28.04.21 01.01.24	Signed: HEADTEACHER  CHAIR OF GOVERNORS <i>K Dainty</i>
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Safeguarding Statement

At Bledington Primary School we respect and value all children and are committed to providing a caring, friendly and safe environment for all our pupils so they can learn, in a relaxed and secure atmosphere. We believe every pupil should be able to participate in all school activities in an enjoyable and safe environment and be protected from harm. This is the responsibility of every adult employed by, or invited to deliver services at Bledington Primary School. We recognise our responsibility to safeguard all who access school and promote the welfare of all our pupils by protecting them from physical, sexual and emotional abuse, neglect and bullying.

This policy should be read in conjunction with our Safeguarding & Child Protection, Behaviour, Anti-bullying, Attendance, e-safety, Accessibility, Equal opportunities and Relationships and Health Education policies. All policies are available on our school website at

<https://www.bledington.gloucs.sch.uk/policies/>

Bledington Primary School



EARLY HELP POLICY

At Bledington Primary School, staff are trained in recognising the signs of Child Abuse and Extremism. They are committed to 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) – Ms Jill Kewley
head@bledington.gloucs.sch.uk
- Deputy Designated Safeguarding Leads (DDSL) – Mrs Sam Bell sbell@bledington.gloucs.sch.uk & Mrs Mona Logue
admin@bledington.gloucs.sch.uk
- Safeguarding Governor – Mrs Kieri Dainty
chair@bledington.gloucs.sch.uk

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. Safeguarding is a standing item on every Staff meeting agenda and also on every Full Governing Body meeting agenda.

Reporting Concerns

If any member of school suspects that a child may be at risk of harm or has been harmed, they will report the incident through the school's email reporting system. The email is received by all members of the safeguarding team. 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. The Headteacher is also the Early Help co-ordinator.

It is school policy that there is always one member of the safeguarding team on site at any one time and that one of these must be the DSL or a DDSL. This enables all concerns to be viewed quickly and an appropriate course of action decided upon. The primary aim of the schools Early Help system 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 who 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 may use the Graduated Pathway and the GSCB Neglect Toolkit but there is 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:

INDICATOR	INDICATOR	INDICATOR	INDICATOR
<p>Low Parenting Skills</p> <p>Substance/Alcohol Abuse Domestic Abuse Parent Mental Health Child Mental Health Bereavement Child Unaware of Danger and How to Keep Themselves Safe Extremist views</p>	<p>Poor Diet - Obesity, Malnourished</p> <p>Young Carer Breakdown in community relationships Adult Mental Health Changes in Behaviour and Risk of Exclusion Child Demonstrates Sexualised Behaviours</p>	<p>Low Income or Poverty</p> <p>Breakdown in family relationships Isolation Disability of a Child Poor Attendance and Punctuality Frequent House or School Moves</p>	<p>Limited Community Integration</p> <p>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</p>

Example Early Help Points of Contact

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.

Universal Support

Family

Friends

School Staff

Governors

Bledington School Association

Breakfast Club

After School Clubs

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 professionals
- Carry out CAF assessments
- Behaviour and emotional support
- Support given to complete forms and applications.

Community Clubs (i.e. sports, arts etc.)

Local clergy

Youth Worker

Community Support

Our Multi-Agency Team:

Cluster Head Teachers

LA SEN Team

St Leonard's Church
(PCSOs)

Police Community Support Officers

Paediatrician

Local Police Officers

Counselling

Play therapy

Local GPs

Communication with previous setting

Local Health Visitors

Thrive (Oxon local charity)

Local School Nurses

Cotswold Friends (Gloucs local charity)

Local Housing Officers

Poor Plot (Bledington charity)

Housing Associations – Fosseway, Cottsway & Bromford housing
Associations

Local Home Start Manager

Community Social Worker

Parent Support Advisor

Family Support Worker

School Safeguarding Team

District/County Council
 North Cotswold Food Bank
 Young Carers
 Citizens Advice Bureau

Job Centre
 Traveller Support Services
 Military RAF/Army Support Services
 Interpreter
 Education Entitlement and Inclusion Team (EEI)

Specialist Support

Mental Health For Children

CAMHS (Oxon)
 CYPS (Glos) emotional well-being team
 Counselling
 CAMHS/CYPS referrals
 NSPCC
 1:1 Therapy from Specialist Therapists
 Play Therapist
 Children and Young People's Services (CYPS)

Bereavement Support

Winston's Wish (Glos)
 Seesaw (Oxon)
 Samaritans
 CRUISE bereavement counselling for parents

Divorce/Separating Families

Cheltenham Family Mediation
 CORUM – online legal advice
 CINCH – counselling for children admissions

Food/Clothes/Christmas

Foodbank vouchers issued
 Application to local charity for clothes, shoes and uniform.

Mental Health for Adults

Referrals to Cotswold
 Letters /phone Calls to GP
 Working with mental health team
 MIND.org website

Domestic Violence

Cotswold Domestic abuse

Finances/Housing

Support to complete benefit claims.
 Referrals to P3
 Liaising with housing officers

School Admissions and Transport

Support to complete free school meal application
 Support to apply to schools admissions

Support to appeal, including letters of support.

Escort and advocate at tribunals

Second hand uniform stock held.
Christmas presents, stocking fillers and Christmas food given.
Bledington Community Shop donations

Crisis Support

Social Care - Child Protection (CP), Child in Need (CIN)
School Safeguarding Team Social Care (Initial/Core Assessment)
Social Worker Education, Entitlement and Inclusion Team
(EEI)
Police - Police Protection Order (PPO) NSPCC
Courts - Care Proceedings Parent Support Advisor
Child Exploitation and Online Protection Centre (CEOPs)
Channel Panel
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,)