

Summary of Bucklesham Primary School's Early Help Offer

What is Early Help?

Early help, also known as early intervention, is support given to a family when a problem first emerges. It can be provided at any stage in a child or young person's life.

Statutory guidance in each nation of the UK highlights the importance of providing early intervention, rather than waiting until a child or family's situation escalates (Department for Education (DfE), 2018; Department of Health, Social Services and Public Safety, 2017; Scottish Government, 2021; Wales Safeguarding Procedures Project Board, 2020).

Early help services can be delivered to parents, children or whole families, but their main focus is to improve outcomes for children.

Who may need Early Help?

Signs that a child or young person may benefit from early help include:

- displaying disruptive or anti-social behaviour
- being bullied or bullying others
- having poor attendance at school
- being involved in, or at risk of, offending
- having poor general health
- having anxiety, depression or other mental health issues
- misusing drugs or alcohol
- having a particularly challenging relationship with parents or appearing to be unusually independent from their parents
- experiencing difficulties at home, such as domestic abuse, parental substance abuse or parental mental health problems

(Department for Education (DfE), 2018).

Early help could provide support at any stage in a child or young person's life. Some are more likely to need this support than others, such as:

- Children in or leaving care
- Children with disabilities
- Young Carers
- Families facing abuse and conflict
- Low-income families

What do we offer our families and children?

- Free breakfast club
- Free homework club
- Referral to School Nurse, or other professionals
- 1:1 counselling from Level 2 counsellor
- Emotional health and wellbeing support
- Nurture and feelings groups, run by trained staff (Level 2 and school staff)
- Quiet lunchtime club, for those struggling to eat in the Hall
- Completing a CAF form with parents to access further support from Social Services and other professionals (Common Assessment Framework)
- Parenting support and parenting courses
- Young Carer referrals
- Interventions in school e.g. phonics, maths, reading, writing, spelling, fine motor, Lego therapy, bereavement activities, Beat Dyslexia, Clicker
- Speech and Language therapy and Speech link