



The Forest Federation Offer of Early Help

Early Help means 'providing support as soon as a problem emerges, at any point in a child's life, from foundation years through to teenage years. Early help is more effective in promoting the welfare of children than reacting later'.

(Working Together to Safeguard Children, DfE guidance)

The federation Early Help Offer identifies the need to help our children and families as soon as a problem starts to emerge or when there is a strong likelihood that problems will develop in the future. All staff must be aware of the offer of early help. At all times staff should consider if there is any offer of early help that we can make in order to help a child to thrive. Early help is an approach not necessarily an action. It includes prevention education as well as reactive intervention where necessary or appropriate. In some cases, immediate urgent action might be necessary if a child or young person is at risk of immediate harm

At all times, all staff should consider if there is any offer of early help that we can make in order to help a child thrive. The Safeguarding and Inclusion teams can offer advice on a range of concerns (e.g. behaviour management, financial worries and debts, domestic abuse, housing concerns, mobility difficulties, bereavement, online bullying) or can signpost families to other sources of information, help and support.

Early help across the federation schools is offered through the following areas in collaboration with other agencies:

- Attendance in school
- Bullying (including online)
- Emotional and behavioural needs
- Parenting behaviours
- Delay in development and learning
- Identification and assessment of special educational needs
- Speech and language delay
- Domestic abuse
- Gangs and Youth Violence
- Gender based violence (Violence against women and girls, including FGM)
- Parental mental health
- Healthy eating and nutrition
- Child and adolescent mental health
- Family support
- Private Fostering
- Radicalisation
- Trafficking

What we might be able to offer and who might be involved

While referral times can be frustrating, where we need to set children and families on a path to action, we need to do this sooner rather than later. The following list of what provision could look like is not exhaustive but gives an idea of what could be accessed;



Forest Federation

Stukeley Meadows Primary and Newton Primary

Be Kind
Work Hard
Aim High

'Getting our best even better, every single day'



- 'Open door' schools with Designated Safeguarding staff, a SENDCo, Mental Health Leads, Family Support Workers, ELSA-trained staff and a range of skilled support staff willing to listen and engage with all families
- Breakfast and After School Clubs
- Comprehensive induction program for children starting EYFS
- Bespoke learning interventions
- Speech and Language Therapy
- Parent Information Sessions
- SEND half termly get-togethers
- Forest School
- A range of before/after school extra-curricular activities
- Pupil Voice Opportunities
- Range of school trips (and residential)
- Government Fruit and Vegetable Scheme
- Vintage Uniform sales
- Attendance Officer support
- Curriculum provision and additional work from outside agencies support our children in learning how to keep themselves safe

Who might the school refer to?

- The Early Help Team
- Children and Young People's Services
- Counselling Services
- School Nurse
- Speech and Language Therapist
- Educational Psychologist
- Young Carers
- SENDIAS
- Local Authority Family Services team
- Attendance Officer
- Child mental health specialists
- Specialist behavioural support teachers and workers