



QUEENSMEAD PRIMARY ACADEMY

Early Help support available
at Queensmead Primary
Academy.

Support • Strengthen • Thrive

Introduction

Early Help is a strategic priority of the Leicester Education Strategic Partnership.

This document explains the Early Help Support available at Queensmead Primary Academy and ensures that:

- Pupils, parent/carers and staff are clear on the Early Help support available through the school
- Partners, working to support families alongside schools have clarity regarding the early help offer of schools; supporting effective multi-agency working
- Staff are up-to-date with and part of local and national approaches to the delivery of early help support for more vulnerable families
- Staff have evidence of their commitment to the personal development and wellbeing strand of the Ofsted Framework

The ultimate goal is to ensure all children, young people and families receive the right support, at the right time reducing the need for referral to statutory services.

1. What is Early Help?

Early Help' means providing help for children, young people and families as soon as problems start to emerge or where it is likely that issues will impact negatively on children's outcomes.

Early help...

- Is for children of all ages and not just the very young,
- Can be very effective in supporting a child, young person and/or their family to step down from statutory services as well as preventing the escalation of issues.
- Is important because there is clear evidence that it results in better outcomes for children.

Early help is a term that describes much of the everyday work of schools.

Early Help in Leicester

The vision of all partner organisations working with children and families in Leicester is to improve children's lives by working in partnership to raise aspirations, build achievement and protect the most vulnerable.

This is based on the belief that:

- Children, young people and families develop resilience if there are protective factors in place such as: a positive relationship with an adult; good literacy and communication skills; good school attendance; and, parents in or actively seeking/ready for work
- Children's needs are best met when help is offered in a universal setting within a socially mixed group and early on when problems start to emerge
- Children and young people's needs are best met when addressed in the context of the whole family, meaning that parents/carers/siblings' needs are addressed with consent as part of a holistic and integrated Early Help response

Early help services should **support** and **strengthen** families so that they can **thrive**.

The Role of Schools

Day to Day Support

Most families, most of the time, can get on with their lives quite happily with little or no outside help. If they need help it is usually provided by universal services, such as schools.

Focused Pastoral Support

All families can have times, however, when difficulties arise and they either may not recognise it or may not know how to start putting things right. Schools play a role in supporting families to address these difficulties through more focused pastoral support, which might include bringing in support via an external agency.

Early Help Assessment

For those children and families whose needs and circumstances make them more vulnerable, or where schools need the support of other agencies to meet the needs of the family, a co-ordinated multi-agency approach is usually best. In Leicester this is achieved through undertaking an Early Help Assessment and assigning a Lead Practitioner to work closely with the family to ensure they receive the support they require. Schools should be a key partner in any multi-agency work to support families.

2. Early Help at Queensmead Primary Academy

Detailed below are the services we offer to support parents and families:

Attendance

Our Offer

- 100% attendance rewards
- Attendance data monitored
- Attendance officer
- Attendance letters home
- Breakfast club
- Detentions and letters home as interventions
- EWO (Educational Welfare Officer)
- EWO meetings (Attendance Panel meetings, penalty notices, PACE meetings, court)
- Family/Inclusion Support Worker
- First day calling
- Home visits
- Meet and greets
- Monitoring of leave of absence requests
- Personal attendance plans
- Policy for leave of absence requests
- Regular monitoring
- Reward charts
- Reward good attendance
- School nurse link
- Trophies / certificates / vouchers / prizes
- Wrap around care after school clubs

Transition

Our Offer

- Books / photos
- Designated link teacher for transition to secondary
- Extra visits/induction for vulnerable students
- Health visitors / school nurse
- Induction Day
- Link between educational phases
- Nursery / Home visits
- Open Evening
- Pupil passport
- SALT (Speech and language therapists)
- SEMH team (Social Emotional and Mental Health)
- Social stories
- Teacher liaison between educational phases
- Students are adequately supported upon entry
- Support online application
- Transitions
- Visits
- Visits for prospective families
- Work with key partners, including Admissions, EIP, EWO

SEMH

Our Offer

- Anger management interventions
- Charity links such as Barnados
- Bereavement counselling / groups
- Brain breaks in class
- Links to CAMHS (Children, Adolescent Mental Health Service) and other agencies including The Laura Centre
- Educational Psychologist
- Family/Inclusion worker
- 'Get out' cards
- Lunch clubs / The Zone
- Mentors and intervention groups
- Mindfulness training for all staff
- Pastoral Support
- Sports Coach
- Team Teach / positive handling training
- Theraplay / Funtime Interventions
- Staff training in Autism, dyslexia, ADHD

Staying Safe

Our Offer

- 'Bike ability'
- Relevant policies and procedures
- Advice point and Early help response
- Anti-bullying Community Award
- Assemblies
- Care plans
- DAS (Duty And advice Service)
- E-safety
- FAB Mentors
- Home visits
- Library leaders
- Link Police Community Support Officer
- Literacy champion
- Parent workshops
- PEP/LAC meetings
- PHSE (Personal Health Social Education) Or PDC (Personal Development Curriculum)
- Prevent e.g. FGM (Female Genital Mutilation) / Forced marriages
- School nurse Drop in sessions
- Tracking of incidents e.g. CPOMS
- Whole school safeguarding training

Supporting Families

Our Offer

- Bereavement support
- Curriculum days / evenings
- Family link / support worker
- Support for form completion (including financial support and housing)
- Home visits
- Parents evenings
- Pastoral support
- PEP and LAC meetings
- Regular review meetings for children with SEN
- SENCo
- Links to SENDIASS (Special Educational Needs and Disabilities Information Advice Support Service)
- Signposting to external agencies and training
- Workshops
- Wrap around care

The local community

Our Offer

- Academy Advisory Council
- Bike ability
- Be Inspired
- Community events – fairs, choirs,
- Community Links such as Fire, PCSO and businesses
- Links between schools
- Supporting charities

The Curriculum

Our Offer

- 1:1 / group work
- Alternative provision
- Assemblies
- Booster classes
- Inter-school events
- Interventions
- Liaison with Outside agencies
- PHSE
- School trips / visits / Residential
- Theme weeks
- Pupil Progress review meetings to track progress

Signed and agreed by

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Designated Safeguarding Persons

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Date Completed

September 2018

Review Date