

# The British School

## EARLY HELP OFFER

'Working together for our children's future'

Early help means providing support as soon as a problem emerges. Central to our early help offer is the early identification of children and families who would benefit from early help and a coordinated early assessment and response to prevent abuse and neglect of children and young people, and improve outcomes for children and families as a whole. All staff and our safeguarding governor have up to date safeguarding training.

The school also use other sources of information to support this offer of early help

In line with Keeping Children Safe in Education (Sept 2024), the School and staff have carefully considered this offer of Early Help. The school uses the SCARF PSHE curriculum (available through Gloucestershire Healthy living and Learning and term), Child Sexual Exploitation screening tool, Listening to the voice of the child through - My Profile work, Strength and Difficulties Questionnaire, My Journeys, GHLL Online Pupil Survey results and pupil conferencing. All staff are trained to respond to radicalisation and have completed the Home Office Prevent Online Training.

The school use [www.glosfamiliesdirectory.org.uk](http://www.glosfamiliesdirectory.org.uk) website to access the key documents needed to support early intervention. These are through My Profiles leading to My Assessments with My Plan + or My Plan needs and outcomes targets. We are also able to access support from the Early Help/ Families First team for the Stroud locality. A representative, the Early Help Co-ordinator (ECHO) from this team can also attend meetings and provide school and parents with advice and support through surgeries in school, email, phone calls and forums.

All individuals working with children, young people and their families have a duty and responsibility to report any allegations or concerns of a child protection nature, which comes to their attention. When such a concern is raised you should:

- Discuss with the school's Designated Safeguarding Lead, Mr Abel Roche (or DSL Deputy Mrs Debbie Swain or DDSL Miss Holly Carter, if all are absent contact the designated alternative School Safety Lead- Glynn Jones Head Teacher @ Bluecoat Primary School- 01453 525020)
- In writing, log briefly and accurately the concern and the child's comments on CPOMS (our monitoring and recording system for safeguarding and well-being issues). Members of staff who do not have access to this or volunteers will record concerns using the safeguarding forms kept in the safeguarding folder found on the Teacher shared area. Access to this can be provided by any member of teaching/ Admin staff.
- When a child is at immediate risk of significant harm, please contact the Children and Families Front Door.

<https://www.gloucestershire.gov.uk/health-and-social-care/children-young-people-and-families/contact-children-and-families-services/>

- In those cases where there is a concern but you are unsure about how to proceed contact the Children's Help Desk Tel: 01452 426 565 and ask to speak to a social work practitioner. Further guidance can be found at: <https://www.ghll.org.uk/partnership-projects/gscp/>

BELOW IS OUTLINED OUR PROVISION FOR EARLY HELP

<p>Universal source of help for all families in Gloucestershire:  <b>Gloucestershire Family Information Service (FIS)</b></p>	<p>Gloucestershire Family Information Service (FIS) advisors give impartial information on <b>childcare, finances, parenting and education</b>. FIS are a useful source of information for parents and professionals. They support families, children and young people aged 0-19 years of age (25 for young people with additional needs) and professionals working with these families.</p> <p>This service can give family support and advice:  information about options for childcare;  information about schools; information that young people can access and a guide to activities happening in Gloucestershire. Contact the FIS by emailing: a <a href="mailto:familyinfo@gloucestershire.gov.uk">familyinfo@gloucestershire.gov.uk</a></p> <p>FIS also has a website which has a wealth of information to support many issues such as childcare and support for children with disabilities, including the local authority's SEND local offer of help and support. <a href="#">Glofamilies Directory</a></p>
<p>GSCP  (Gloucestershire Safeguarding Children's Partnership)  Website:  <a href="https://www.gloucestershire.gov.uk/gscp/">https://www.gloucestershire.gov.uk/gscp/</a></p>	<p>Important information for parents and professionals across Gloucestershire in relation to keeping children safe and avenues of support including early help options.</p>
<p>The British School's universal support for all pupils and families.</p>	<p>All staff are available in a pastoral capacity should parents have a concern about anything at all. Staff may not have the answer but will try to find out the answer or sign-post parents/other professionals in the right direction. In addition to this the school have additional pastoral support through the SENCO and safeguarding team. Parents can either talk directly to the pastoral teams or with teaching staff or telephone the Head. <i>Staff are available within office hours (9am - 5pm on weekdays during term-time).</i></p>
<p>Parent and Pupil Support Advisor</p>	<p>The role of the school's PPSA is currently vacant, however our SENCo covers these duties. She works closely with parents and pupils who need additional support by providing:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Time to talk</li> <li>Solution Focused Approach (BRIEF) counselling</li> <li>Bereavement counselling</li> <li>Social and Emotional support</li> </ul> <p>Referrals to other services to support families:  eg Families First Plus, Teens in Crisis, Foodbank.  Early Help Referrals  My Assessments  Working with The Kindergarten staff to support families.</p>

## PSHE/SMSC Curriculum

The SCARF Curriculum is a whole school PSHE curriculum which covers 6 topics throughout the academic year. It is a spiral curriculum, so each year the children revisit and build on their previous knowledge and skills in specific areas.

The 6 units covered are:

1. Me and My Relationships
2. Valuing Difference
3. Keeping Safe
4. Rights and Respect
5. Being My Best
6. Growing and Changing

In Term 6, the children are taught their *Growing and Changing* Unit, which includes their statutory Relationships and Sex Education (SRE). At our school we choose to teach non-statutory Sex Education in Year 6 to equip our children with the appropriate knowledge. All of these topics include age appropriate content. School send letters home to inform parents of what content and vocabulary will be taught.

The curriculum covers key areas such as healthy relationships, bullying, online safety, mental and physical health, economic education, substance misuse, stereotypes and more.

Our PSHE curriculum educates children about the Protected Characteristics: Age, Disability, Gender reassignment, Marriage and civil partnership, Pregnancy and maternity, Race, Religion or belief, Sex and Sexual orientation. This ensures we promote equality and encourage children to show respect to a diverse range of people.

Our school has a strong focus on Equality, Diversity, Inclusion and Belonging to ensure children see both themselves and a true representation of our diverse, multi-cultural society reflected in the content they are being taught, the books they are reading and the events we celebrate or mark. We ensure that key events such as Show Racism the Red Card, Black History Month, LGBTQ+ History Month, Pride and others are marked in school.

We encourage pupil voice and have an active school and eco council that meets on a fortnightly basis, including 2 children from each class.

E-safety	E-safety is a key part of the ongoing (PSHE/SMSC/SRE) curriculum. -Ivision Trust (formally PACE- parents against child exploitation) UK is a useful website to engage parents with e-safety issues. <a href="#">Ivison Trust - We support families affected by child exploitation.</a> and CEOP <a href="https://www.ceop.police.uk/">https://www.ceop.police.uk/</a> (Child Exploitation and Online Protection).
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Bullying (including cyberbullying)/child death/suicide prevention

All Gloucestershire schools including The British School are committed to tackling bullying. We want to know immediately if there are any issues with bullying at school so that it can be addressed. It could be that bullying is related to a child's home or school. School can also offer bespoke lessons on anti-bullying for anyone who has suffered bullying to encourage behaviours that might avert it in the future (e.g. assertiveness) or to boost self-esteem.

Every year we take part in Anti - bullying week (Nov) and all children contribute to the school's policy about how we can stop bullying.

A very useful website is the anti-bullying alliance -

<http://www.antibullyingalliance.org.uk/>

In serious cases of bullying parents should contact the police; particularly if there are threats involved. In an emergency call 999. Other sources of help and advice are:

<https://www.gloucestershire.gov.uk/gscp/>

(Gloucestershire Safeguarding children's partnership)

<http://www.bullying.co.uk>

Gloucestershire Healthy Living and Learning team provide alerts and resources in relation to supporting young people being bullied.

What is bullying?

Bullying is when a person is habitually cruel or overbearing, especially to smaller or weaker people by using physical or emotional abuse. In extreme cases prejudice-motivated bullying and harassment can also be considered a hate crime which is punishable by law.

Bullying can come in several forms, including:

- being called names
- being teased
- being pushed or pulled about
- having money and other possessions taken or messed about with
- having rumours spread about you
- being ignored and left out
- being hit, kicked or physically hurt in any way
- being threatened or intimidated

#### **Different forms of bullying**

- **Verbal** - It is not uncommon for people to experience some form of verbal bullying (being called names or insulted) at some point in their lives, however, whatever age you are being called names or insulted can have an effect on your wellbeing.
- **Homophobic** - bullying someone because they are a different sexual orientation from you. Saying that someone is 'gay' or using words like 'gay' as an insult.

- **Racist** - treating people differently because of their race, the colour of their skin, where they are from or what they believe in and using offensive words that describe race to bully people.

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Sexist</b>- treating people differently based on whether they are female or male. For example, thinking that boys are better than girls.</li> <li>• <b>Sexual</b> - Sexual bullying is a type of bullying and harassment that occurs in connection with sex. It can be physical, verbal, or emotional. Examples include spreading rumours of a sexual nature, abusive, sexualised name calling and unwelcome looks and comments about someone's appearance or attractiveness; either face to face or to others</li> <li>• <b>Disabilist</b> - treating someone differently if they are disabled, or using offensive language to describe people who are disabled and using this to bully people.</li> <li>• <b>Lookist</b> - bullying someone because they look different such as if they have ginger hair or wear glasses.</li> <li>• <b>Classist</b> - deciding that someone is from a particular social class - usually if they are seen as being rich or poor - and bullying them because of this. For example, calling somebody a, 'chav' or, 'snob'.</li> <li>• <b>Age</b> - treating someone unfairly because of their age eg. not employing anybody over the age of 60.</li> <li>• <b>Religion</b> - discriminating against someone due to their set of beliefs.</li> </ul>
<p>Children or young people with multiple needs (vulnerable) or multiple needs (complex) requiring multi-agency input or assessment</p>	<p>Within Gloucestershire locality Family First Plus teams provide multi agency support for children and families. A phone call to discuss a possible referral is helpful before making written referral. The school will work with a range of agencies and attend relevant meetings.</p>
<p>Drug concerns</p>	<p><a href="#">Young Gloucestershire   Youth Work, Counselling and Mentoring</a>  Young Gloucestershire provides individual targeted support around drugs &amp; emotional health issues, development of personal &amp; social skills, and information &amp; support around substance misuse. Drugs education is covered in the school curriculum.</p>
<p>Mental health concerns</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Referral to school nurses may be appropriate.</li> <li>• Referral to CAMHS (Gloucestershire's mental health services) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• via your own GP.</li> <li>• For children/young people/adults with existing mental health difficulties concerns should be discussed with the existing medical professionals (consultant psychiatrists).</li> <li>• In an emergency call 999 or 111.</li> <li>• CAMHS Practitioner advice line (for professionals to call) tel: <b>01452 894272</b>.</li> </ul> </li> </ul>

<p>Child Sexual exploitation (CSE)</p>	<p>CSE screening tool (can be located on the GSCP website: <a href="https://www.gloucestershire.gov.uk/gscp/professional-resources/child-criminal-and-sexual-exploitation/">https://www.gloucestershire.gov.uk/gscp/professional-resources/child-criminal-and-sexual-exploitation/</a>)</p> <p>This should be completed if CSE suspected.</p> <p>Clear information about warning signs, the screening tool and Gloucestershire's multi-agency protocol for safeguarding children at risk of CSE are at <a href="https://www.gloucestershire.gov.uk/gscp/professional-resources/child-criminal-and-sexual-exploitation/">https://www.gloucestershire.gov.uk/gscp/professional-resources/child-criminal-and-sexual-exploitation/</a></p> <p>Referrals should be made to Gloucestershire social care and the Gloucestershire Police through the Front Door on 01452 426565 National Working Group (Network tackling Child Sexual Exploitation) <a href="https://nwgnetwork.org/">https://nwgnetwork.org/</a> and Ivison (formally PACE- Parents Against Child Sexual Exploitation) <a href="#">Ivison Trust - We support families affected by child exploitation.</a></p>
<p>Domestic violence</p>	<p>The GSCP (Gloucestershire Safeguarding Children's Partnership) have published a Domestic Abuse pathway for educational settings which is on the GSCP website.</p> <p>If a child or young person is suspected of living at home with a domestically abusive parent or if a young person has domestic abuse in their own relationship, then the usual procedures should be followed and a referral made to the children's helpdesk <b>Tel: 01452 426565</b>. The response will vary according to the age of the young person so that the appropriate agencies are involved.</p> <p>The cross-government definition of domestic violence and abuse is any incident or pattern of incidents of controlling, coercive, threatening behaviour, violence or abuse between those aged 16 or over who are, or have been, intimate partners or family members regardless of gender or sexuality. The abuse can encompass, but is not limited to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>•psychological</li> <li>•physical</li> <li>•sexual</li> <li>•financial</li> <li>•emotional</li> </ul> <p>(Source: <a href="https://www.gov.uk/domestic-violence-and-abuse">https://www.gov.uk/domestic-violence-and-abuse</a> Updated Nov 2024)</p> <p>We will use: Gloucestershire Domestic Abuse Support Service (GDASS) <a href="http://www.gdass.org.uk">www.gdass.org.uk</a> or Call the police (999 in an emergency or 101 for a nonemergency situation). or contact any of the national support help lines:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>•National Domestic Violence Helpline <b>(0808 2000 247)</b>.</li> <li>•National Centre for Domestic Abuse <b>(0844 8044 999)</b>.</li> <li>•Men's Advice Line <b>(0808 801 0327)</b>.</li> </ul>

	<p>MARAC Gloucestershire Constabulary: Multi Agency Risk Assessment Conferences (MARACs) prioritise the safety of victims who have been risk assessed at high or very high risk of harm. The MARAC is an integral part of the Specialist Domestic Violence Court Programme, and information will be shared between the MARAC and the Courts, in high and very high risk cases, as part of the process of risk management.</p>
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<p>Fabricated and induced illness (FII)</p>	<p><a href="http://www.nhs.uk/Conditions/Fabricated-or-induced-illness">http://www.nhs.uk/Conditions/Fabricated-or-induced-illness</a> for information on behaviours and motivation behind FII. Any professionals suspecting FII must involve the Police, Social Services and follow the child protection procedures outlined in this policy</p>
<p>Faith abuse</p>	<p><a href="https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/nationalaction-plan-to-tacklechild-abuse-linked-to-faith-or-belief">https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/nationalaction-plan-to-tacklechild-abuse-linked-to-faith-or-belief</a> for copy of DfE document 'national action plan to tackle child abuse linked to faith or belief.' Brett Riches; Diocese of Gloucester Head of Safeguarding/faith abuse contact: <a href="mailto:safeguarding@glosdioc.org.uk">safeguarding@glosdioc.org.uk</a> For other faith groups contact Derek Hatten (GCC LADO).</p>

<p>Female genital mutilation (FGM)</p>	<p><a href="http://www.nhs.uk/Conditions/female-genital-mutilation">http://www.nhs.uk/Conditions/female-genital-mutilation</a> for NHS information and signs of FGM. It is mandatory that any suspicion of FGM should be referred to the Police, DSL and social care.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- All members of staff have completed the online home office training, 'Female Genital Mutilation: Recognising and Preventing FGM'</li> <li>- E-learning package- <a href="http://www.fgmelearning.co.uk/">http://www.fgmelearning.co.uk/</a></li> <li>- for interested staff or professionals (free home office e-learning)</li> </ul>
<p>Forced marriage</p>	<p>SPOC (Single Point of Contact) for Forced Marriage in Gloucestershire is Acting DI Jo Mercurio (Gloucestershire Constabulary, Public Protection Bureau).  UK Forced Marriage Unit <a href="mailto:fm@fco.gov.uk">fm@fco.gov.uk</a>  Telephone: <b>020 7008 0151</b>  Call 999 (police) in an emergency.</p>
<p>Gangs and youth violence</p>	<p>Contact the Avenger Task Force/Inspector Neil Smith (Gloucestershire Police tel: 101). A task force set up to identify potential gang members as vulnerable individuals and potential victims and aims to help them.</p>
<p>Gender-based violence/violence against women and girls (WAWG)</p>	<p><a href="https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/tackling-violence-against-women-and-girls-strategy">https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/tackling-violence-against-women-and-girls-strategy</a>  Home office policy document, 'Ending violence against women and girls in the UK' (2021).  FGM (Female Genital Mutilation) is violence against women and girls.  Hope House SARC (Sexual Assault Referral Centre):  0300 421 6500  Gloucestershire Rape and Sexual Abuse Centre:  <b>01452 526770</b></p>
<p>Honour based violence (HBV)</p>	<p>The police have made it a high priority to help communities fight back to tackle both honour based violence and hate crime. If you need help or you think that someone you know might need help, you can contact the national charity <a href="http://www.karnanirvana.org">Karma Nirvana</a> for confidential advice and support. They also have a helpline, Monday to Friday, 9am to 5pm: 0800 5999 247.</p>

Private fostering	<p><a href="http://www.gloucestershire.gov.uk/privatefostering">http://www.gloucestershire.gov.uk/privatefostering</a> Gloucestershire County council website information on private fostering. Refer to Gloucestershire Children &amp; Families Helpdesk on 01452 426565 or Gloucestershire Private Fostering Kinship support team on 01452 425320.</p> <p>A private fostering arrangement is essentially one that is made without the involvement of a local authority. Private fostering is defined in the Children Act 1989 and occurs when a child or young person under the age of 16 (under 18 if disabled) is cared for and provided with accommodation, for 28 days or more, by someone who is not their parent, guardian or a close relative. (Close relatives are defined as; step-parents, siblings, brothers or sisters of parents or grandparents).</p>
Radicalisation (Prevent Duty)	<p>All staff have been trained using the Home Office Prevent online training.</p> <p>Gloucestershire Constabulary: 101 and Derek Hatten (LADO) Anti-Terrorist Hotline: 0800 789 321</p>
Sexting	<p><a href="https://www.nspcc.org.uk/keeping-children-safe/">https://www.nspcc.org.uk/keeping-children-safe/</a> (NSPCC website). Gloucestershire Police have a small sexual exploitation team. Contact LADO. Nigel Hatton.</p>
Trafficking	<p>Serious crime which must be reported to Derek Hatten (Gloucestershire LADO) and the Gloucestershire Police. Trafficking can include a young person being moved across the same street to a different address for the purpose of exploitation. It doesn't have to include people, children or young people being moved great distances.</p>
Children who run away (missing persons/missing children)	<p>PC Christina Pfister (Missing persons Coordinator Gloucestershire Police). Tel: 101 (Gloucestershire Police).</p>

	<p>Youth Support Team</p> <p>We're there for young people whenever they need us. Young people can drop in at our centres around Gloucestershire. Or we can talk to them in their home or school - wherever's best for them.</p> <p>We're realistic. We give young people an idea of what's possible, but we challenge them too: we don't have all the answers. Talk to us</p> <p>If you'd like to find out more about what we offer, call us on <b>01452 426900</b> or email us at <a href="mailto:info.glos@prospects.co.uk">info.glos@prospects.co.uk</a></p>
<p>CME (Children missing education)</p>	<p>Anyone concerned that a child is missing education (CME) can make a referral to the Education Performance and Inclusion team (EEI) at Gloucestershire County Council. Tel: <b>01452 427360</b>. Children Missing Education (CME) refers to 'any child of compulsory school age who is not registered at any formally approved education activity e.g. school, alternative provision, elective home education, and has been out of education provision for at least 4 weeks'. CME also includes those children who are missing (family whereabouts unknown), and are usually children who are registered on a school roll / alternative provision. This might be a child who is not at their last known address and either: has not taken up an allocated school place as expected, or has 10 or more days of continuous absence from school without explanation, or left school suddenly and the destination is unknown. It is the responsibility of the Education Entitlement and Inclusion team, on behalf of the Local Authority (LA), to: Collate information on all reported cases of CME of statutory school aged children in Gloucestershire maintained schools, academies, free schools, alternative provision academies and Alternative Provision Schools (APS). The EEI Team will also liaise with partner agencies and other LAs and schools across Britain to track pupils who may be missing education and ensure each child missing education is offered full time education within 2 weeks of the date the LA was informed.</p>

Peer on Peer Abuse	<p>Peer on peer abuse can manifest itself in many ways. The department provides searching screening and confiscation advice for schools. The UK Council for Child Internet Safety (UKCCIS) Education Group has recently published sexting advice for schools and colleges. The School and Governors recognise that there are different gender issues that can be prevalent when dealing with peer on peer abuse. This could, for example, include girls being sexually touched/assaulted or boys being subject to initiation/hazing type violence.</p> <p>A record of any incidents of peer on peer abuse is held by Mr Abel Roche (Head Teacher).</p>
Hate	<p>Bullying can also be considered a <b>hate</b> crime which is punishable by law. Bullying can come in several forms, including: being called names being teased being pushed or pulled about, having money and others (see bullying above).</p>