

# Support for Children and Families

At Ipsley C of E Middle School, we recognise the challenges that families face in bringing up children. There may be times when you need extra help and support. If this is the case, please come and talk to us. There are many ways in which we can support our families as outlined in this offer of early help.

**Email:** [office@ipsleyacademy.co.uk](mailto:office@ipsleyacademy.co.uk)

**Telephone:** 01527 525725



**'And don't forget to do good and to share with those in need.'** Hebrews 13:16 NLT

## **Key Personnel:**

**The Designated Safeguarding Lead (DSL) is:** Miss A Saul

**The Deputy DSL(s) are:** Mrs D Curtis, Mr M Williams, Miss J Hills, Miss N Jackson, Mrs S Jilks, Mr J McRobie,

**The nominated safeguarding governor is:** Ms S Pickstone

**The Principal is:** Ms A Saul

**The Chair of Governors is:** Mr Matt Setchell

**Assistant Principal for KS2 is:** Mrs L Field

**KS3 Phase leader is:** Mrs S Jilks

**Behaviour and Wellbeing leads are:** Miss Jackson, Mr McRobie, Mrs Cross (attendance), Mrs Wilson (intervention)

## **Our Early Help Offer**

Early Help is a pathway to supporting you and your child as they grow up when you or they may need further support or guidance.

Providing early help to our pupils and families at Ipsley C of E Middle School means we can improve outcomes for children, families, and communities, providing support as soon as a problem emerges, at any point in a child's life, from the early years through to teenage years.

### **Early Help can support children and their families who may be struggling with:**

- Routines and family rules
- Families who may be not be eating healthy food
- Keeping to a healthy lifestyle
- Children who are caring for a family member
- Children who may not want to go to school for different reasons
- Disability within the family including children being a young carer
- Children in the family have special educational needs (SEND)
- Children who may becoming involved in anti-social or criminal behaviour
- Children who go missing from home
- Children or parents / carers misusing drugs or alcohol
- Children at risk of being tricked, forced, or made to work in the criminal world
- Children who may need support because they may live in a home and see drug or alcohol abuse or adult mental health problems.
- Children who have parents who argue a lot (and sometimes might hurt each other) whether the parents live together or apart.
- Children at risk of being groomed to join groups which support illegal views
- A privately fostered child (a child from another family living within your family home)

Early help relies upon local groups and people in the community, sometimes we work together to help children, young people, and their families.

Everyone needs help at some time in their lives and therefore an ethos of early help is important for any school.

### **Early Help Support at Ipsley C of E Middle School**

At Ipsley, we meet the needs of our children in a variety of ways:

**Pupil Voice** – pupils are actively encouraged to speak about any concerns they have to a member of staff or to our pastoral or safeguarding team. In lessons, children are taught to speak openly about their emotions. Pupils know the staff take all their concerns very seriously.

- Children questionnaires ascertain if they feel happy and safe
- Online safety and safeguarding assemblies are delivered to all pupils at least every term.
- School Council meet regularly with the Principal to share the outcomes of their meetings.
- Our 'Happy, Healthy, Safe' pupil group focus on safeguarding around school and advise the safeguarding team and other pupils about how to stay happy, healthy and safe. They have also undertaken anti-bullying champion training.
- Pupils can access 'Report a Concern' on Epraise, which is monitored by the safeguarding and BWL team.



The **Designated Safeguarding Lead (DSL)**, Miss Saul, **Senior Deputy Designated Safeguarding Lead**, Mrs Curtis and the safeguarding team ensure rigorous and robust systems are in place within the school to ensure the safety of all of our children. Mrs Curtis works closely with families and has an excellent knowledge of support available both locally and nationally. She is trained in Mental Health, Attachment, Self Harm, Child Sexual Exploitation, Reducing Conflict in the Home and is a Domestic Abuse Champion. All staff are trained in order to identify pupils who may need safeguarding support. They follow clear procedures and alert the safeguarding team immediately to ensure pupils receive the support they need.

**Attendance** is monitored closely each day and we have an EWO to support families with improving attendance. Any attendance concerns are addressed with parents. All absence from school without a message from parents is investigated at the start of the school day, to ensure that pupils are safe. We have a Behaviour and Wellbeing lead whose job role is to support families around attendance.

**Behaviour** is expected to be excellent to ensure pupils are safe and are able to learn. We follow our behaviour policy and expect pupils to be:

- Ready
- Respectful
- Safe

All staff are **safeguarding** trained in order to identify pupils who may need safeguarding support. They follow clear procedures and alert the safeguarding team immediately to ensure pupils receive the support they need.

**Pastoral Support** is incredibly effective. We have a non-teaching Behaviour and Wellbeing lead in KS2 and KS3 as well as a Behaviour and Wellbeing lead for attendance and another who offers bespoke wellbeing interventions. The BWLs work alongside the pastoral leads and Senior Assistant Principal. These staff members support pupils with day to day school life, uniform, friendship issues, and liaise closely with parents around attendance, behaviour and their child's life at school.



**SEN support** is led by our SENCO, Miss Yeomans. All SEN pupils are monitored closely by the SENCO and the SEN team and all staff support effective WAVE 1- 4 provision for our pupils. Miss Yeomans and her team work with children and families with additional needs and can signpost parents to many different agencies.

The Ipsley C of E Middle School offer of Early Help is outlined below. We believe that early interventions for children or families, in many cases, will prevent children from experiencing harm.

We will:

- Provide a safe, calm place for any pupil who is upset and needs time to compose themselves before returning to lessons.
- Offer support, counselling and advice to pupils with problems such as friendship issues, lack of confidence, eating disorders, sexuality, bereavement, self-harm or family difficulties.
- Refer to other more specialist agencies such as the School Nurse, Touchstones, Children's Services and Early Help Family Support.
- Find solutions to pastoral issues affecting the pupil's ability to learn.
- Meet with pupils and parents to discuss any matters influencing the pupil in school.
- Support pupils to develop the necessary skills to resolve problems themselves through an effective PSHE Education and pastoral programme.
- Deal with issues arising from uniform or other school rules.
- Support families with accessing help from other agencies.
- Hold regular staff CPD around pupil self-esteem and mental health.
- Offer regular appointments with the school nurse
- Meet regularly with PCSOs and Police Education Liaison Officers
- Offer a well-stocked uniform swap shop

At all times, our Team Ipsley staff should consider if there is any offer of Early Help that we can make in order to help a child thrive.

We also liaise with other agencies and people within the local community. In the table below are some national organisations that can support children, young people and their families.



## Local Services

<p><b>Family Hub –</b>  <a href="#">Virtual Family Hub   Worcestershire County Council</a></p>	<p><b>What's on during the school holidays? (ready, steady, Worcestershire, youth groups, clubs and activities)</b>  <a href="#">Ready Steady Worcestershire - Holiday Activities and Food (HAF) Programme   Worcestershire County Council</a></p>
<p><b>Youth and Community Centre –</b>  <a href="http://www.ringsideboxingfitness.co.uk">www.ringsideboxingfitness.co.uk</a> (Peter Martin)  <a href="http://www.youngsolutions.org.uk">www.youngsolutions.org.uk</a> (Jennifer Martin – CRUSH)  <a href="http://www.yourideas.org.uk">www.yourideas.org.uk</a> (Your Ideas)</p>	<p><b>Foodbank</b>  <a href="http://www.aokuk.org.uk">www.aokuk.org.uk</a> (Acts of Kindness)  <b>Christians Against Poverty – debt support</b>  <a href="http://www.capuk.org">www.capuk.org</a></p>
<p><b>Early Help Family Support District Team –</b>  <b>All Early Help information for parents – including further signposting for parents and children can be found on Worcestershire Virtual Family Hub above.</b></p>	<p><b>Library</b>  <a href="#">Redditch Library   Worcestershire County Council</a></p>

### Early Help Family Support Service:

The Early Help Family Support Service is delivered by Worcestershire Children First directly to families permanently living in Worcestershire who have children aged 0-18 years old and need help and support specifically from a Family Support Worker. For more information, please visit: [Worcestershire Children First Early Help Family Support Service | Worcestershire County Council](#)

## Health (including mental health, emotional wellbeing, and sexual health)

The **Starting Well Partnership** offer a range of health services which support both children and families experiencing a range of health issues.

[Worcestershire Health Visiting Service | Starting Well \(startingwellworcs.nhs.uk\)](#)

If your child is under 5 years old and you need advice on issues such as feeding, behaviour, or toileting you can contact the **Telephone Advisory Service** on **0300 123 9551** (Monday – Friday 9am til 3pm).

A Health Visitor will assist you over the phone with any worries, concerns, or questions you have.

[School Health Nursing | Starting Well \(startingwellworcs.nhs.uk\)](#)

School health nurses offer a range of services such as home visits, health needs assessments, time4u drop-in service, school aged hearing and national child measurement programme to support the needs of children and their families.

[Text service supporting young people | Latest news, updates and opportunities | Starting Well \(startingwellworcs.nhs.uk\)](#)

Chat health is a free and confidential text service for young people in need of advice or support

*TO CONFIDENTIALLY CONTACT YOUR SCHOOL NURSE, TEXT: 07507331750*

[Social Prescribing :: Onside Advocacy, Worcestershire \(onside-advocacy.org.uk\)](#)

Social Prescribers support you to take control of your health and look after yourself by making connections with the different types of community support available.

[I am worried about my Child's mental health | Herefordshire and Worcestershire Health and Care NHS Trust \(hacw.nhs.uk\)](#)



### [Home - Kooth](#)

Kooth is an online mental wellbeing community which offers free, safe, and anonymous support.

### [Reach 4 Wellbeing | Herefordshire and Worcestershire Health and Care NHS Trust \(hacw.nhs.uk\)](#)

The Reach4Wellbeing team promotes positive wellbeing to reduce the stigma of mental health by providing short-term group programmes for children and young people age 5-18 experiencing mild to moderate anxiety and low mood.

### [Papyrus UK Suicide Prevention | Prevention of Young Suicide \(papyrus-uk.org\)](#)

Papyrus can offer suicide prevent support providing free and confidential helplines, advice, webchats, and resources.

### [Home | Healthy Minds \(whct.nhs.uk\)](#)

### [Winston's Wish - giving hope to grieving children \(winstonswish.org\)](#)

Winstons Wish provide support for children and young people following the death of a sibling, parent, or a person important to a child.

## **Sexual Health** [Sexual health | Sexual health | Worcestershire County Council](#)

### [Worcestershire Integrated Sexual Health Service \(WISH\) | Herefordshire and Worcestershire Health and Care NHS Trust \(hacw.nhs.uk\)](#)

WISH offer friendly and non-judgemental specialist services to support with information and advice, contraception, pregnancy, STIs and screening.

**Under 21 Saturday Service** - Clinic telephone lines are open between 10:00am – 12:30pm on Saturdays - **Please call: 01905 681673 for further details.**

Young People have a telephone consultation and are asked questions about their relationships. Callers will be advised what to do next and directed towards a clinic if necessary.

WISH have a dedicated Outreach nursing service. Referral forms can be found at [www.knowyourstuff.nhs.uk](http://www.knowyourstuff.nhs.uk) The Outreach team see young and vulnerable people who couldn't otherwise access sexual health services.

Free STI test kits and contraception: [SH:24 Free Home STI STD Test | Sexual & Reproductive Health \(sh24.org.uk\)](#)

## **Bullying (including Cyberbullying)**

If you are concerned your child or a child, you know is being bullied there are several services and useful links which can help you support your child as a parent.

In the first instance if bullying is happening at school, please speak to a member of staff who will be able to help.

The following links will provide you with more information if you or someone you know is being bullied:

[Is your child or someone you know being bullied? | Is your child or someone you know being bullied? |](#)

[Worcestershire County Council](#)

[Are you being bullied? | Are you being bullied? | Worcestershire County Council](#)

[Cyberbullying | Cyberbullying | Worcestershire County Council](#)

<https://www.kidscape.org.uk/resources-and-publications/>

### **Online Safety**

If you have concerns around the safety of your child or a child you know online, the following links will provide you with information, support, and advice to help understand the risks and keep your child safe online:

- <https://www.thinkuknow.co.uk/parents/>
- [Online safety | Barnardo's \(barnardos.org.uk\)](#)
- <http://educateagainsthate.com/>

- [www.internetmatters.org](http://www.internetmatters.org)
- <https://www.bbc.com/ownit/the-basics/8-tips-for-staying-safe-online>

Sexting is the sending or receiving of sexually explicit images, videos or conversations online.

[Sexting and sending nudes | NSPCC](#)

<https://www.thinkuknow.co.uk/parents/articles/Nude-selfies-a-parents-guide/>

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## Relationships

The following services and links offer information, advice, and intervention on healthy relationships for your family and children:

[Healthy relationships | NSPCC](#)

Challenges at home: [Harmony at Home – information and support for parent carers | Harmony at Home – information and support for parent carers | Worcestershire County Council](#)

CRUSH is an awareness raising and support programme to help young people make safe and healthy relationships.

[Children and Young People Services | West Mercia Women's Aid \(westmerciawomensaid.org\)](#)

[Relationships | The Family Hub | Worcestershire County Council](#)

### **Friendships and relationship in teenagers**

Making friends and starting new relationships are a big part of getting older. It's very common to fall out with friends or break up from relationships – which can be very difficult to deal with. You might also be in a relationship that doesn't feel right and need some advice about what to do. The websites below contain lots of information about making friends, peer pressure, healthy and unhealthy relationships, sex and much more. There is also information available for parents around how to talk to your child about friendships, sex and relationships.

[Childline - Friends, relationships and sex \(opens in a new window\)](#)

[Disrespect NoBody campaign - GOV.UK \(www.gov.uk\)](#)

[NHS Choices - How to talk to your child about sex \(opens in a new window\)](#)

[NHS Choices - Sex and young people \(opens in a new window\)](#)

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## SEND (Special Educational Needs and/or Disabilities)

If you are looking for information or advice the following links will help you:

[SEND Local Offer | Worcestershire County Council](#) or contact [localoffer@worschildrenfirst.org.uk](mailto:localoffer@worschildrenfirst.org.uk)

SEND Information, Advice, Support Service [SENDIASS Worcestershire and Herefordshire \(hwsendiass.co.uk\)](http://hwsendiass.co.uk)

[Social care support for children with disabilities | Social care support for children with disabilities | Worcestershire County Council](#)



**The Online Family Hub** has been developed to provide you with a range of different types of resources that are available to you online, on the phone or face to face that you can access directly.

The Family Hub can offer you support and information with the challenge's family life can bring.

[Virtual Family Hub | Worcestershire County Council](#)



Relationships



Early Help Family Support



GET SAFE



Early Help Booklet

**Early Help in Worcestershire** have created a **booklet** to help families find out about the help and support available in the county for children and young people aged 0-18 years old. The new booklet will help you and families find the most appropriate support.

**To download this booklet, please visit:** [Virtual Family Hub | Worcestershire County Council](#)

## Worcestershire Young Carers

Worcestershire Young Carers aim to identify, and support children and young people aged 7 to 24 years who have a caring role within the home and help look after a parent, sibling, or grandparent due to illness, disability, physical or mental health difficulties or substance misuse.

[Worcestershire Young Carers/Shropshire Young Carers | YSS](#)

[Carers | Worcestershire County Council](#)

## Finance, Housing and Employment

If you are facing challenges around employment and income, please contact the local job centre who can with offer support with jobseekers' allowance, incapacity benefit, employment and support allowance and income support:

**Local Job Centre Plus,**

**Worcester Job Centre Plus**, Haswell House, Sansome Street, Worcester, WR1 1UZ  
Telephone: 0845 6043719

Citizen's Advice Bureau [Worcester Citizens Advice – Worcester Citizens Advice Bureau and WHABAC \(Worcester Housing and Benefits Advice Centre\) \(citizensadviceworcester.org.uk\)](#)

Building Better Opportunities is a service to help local people move closer to employment. [Building Better Opportunities \(fusionworcs.co.uk\)](#)

For information on what financial and housing support is available in Worcestershire, please visit: [Housing and finances | The Family Hub | Worcestershire County Council](#)

## Parenting Support

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The Starting Well Partnership offer a range of parenting support, information, groups, and courses. For information on the groups available please visit: [Parenting groups | Starting Well \(startingwellworcs.nhs.uk\)](https://www.startingwellworcs.nhs.uk/parenting-groups)

Parenting Talk is an online hub offering information, advice, and a free confidential online chat with a parenting advisor.

[Parent Talk - Support for Parents from Action For Children](#)

Homestart can work with you to provide one to one support in the family home each week. This service provides support tailored to your needs and can help you as parents they learn to cope and build confidence to provide as best you can for your children.

[Home-Start | South Worcestershire \(home-startsw.org.uk\)](https://www.home-startsw.org.uk)

### **Family Information Service**

Do you need advice and support around finding childcare? The following link will provide you with the contact details of the Family Information Service's District Teams:

[http://www.worcestershire.gov.uk/info/20507/childcare/1579/family\\_information\\_service](http://www.worcestershire.gov.uk/info/20507/childcare/1579/family_information_service)

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## **Substance Misuse**

[Swanswell - Cranstoun](#)

Here 4 Youth is support service for children and young people up to the age of 18 who may be struggling with their use of drug and / or alcohol. [Here4YOUth Worcestershire - Cranstoun](#)

### **Do you have a family member in prison?**

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Do you have a family member in prison which is having an impact on your child? Support is available to work with both the person in prison and your family. Staff at Ipsley have attended the Hidden Sentence Project at a local prison are able to offer support for students/families.

[NICCO](#)

Families First provides support and guidance in a safe space, to enable the whole family to cope with the demands of having a partner, and parent, in prison: [Families First | YSS](#)

### **Get Safe**

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If you are worried your child is at risk of being tricked, forced, or made to work in the criminal world please speak to a member of staff and visit [Get Safe](#) for help and information:

<https://www.worcestershire.gov.uk/GetSafe-keepingchildrenandyoungpeoplesafefromcriminallyexploitation>

*If you are experiencing any of these challenges or issues affecting family life, please contact a member of staff who will be happy to provide you further advice and support.*