

# Speedwell Infant School - Early Help Offer

## September 2019

### Offer to all parents/carers

At Speedwell Infant School we welcome parents/carers into school on a daily basis, building strong partnerships with parents/carers to ensure parents/carers feel able to ask staff questions about their child's development and learning informally. We also offer all parents/carers the opportunity to attend parent information events to help them support their child's learning and development at home. Information is also provided through school newsletters and on the school website. Teachers offer informal advice and guidance through day to day conversations with parents/carers at school arrival and departure times, and at parents evenings.

### Early helps support in school

At Speedwell Infant School we offer a range of early interventions to support children's learning and development where it is identified that a child may need some additional support. As part of this offer, the school employs a teaching assistant in a specialist role called Inclusion and Engagement Teaching Assistant. This teaching assistant is trained in the delivery of Nurture groups and is qualified as an Emotional Literacy Support Assistant (ELSA). The key early help support available to children and their families are:

- Nurture group programme
- ELSA programme
- Behaviour Box programme
- Attendance support
- Arriving late to school support
- Toilet training support
- Sign posting and referrals to other specialist services such as:
  - Educational Psychology
  - Behaviour Support
  - Action for Children
  - Elm Foundation
  - Child Development Centre / CAMHS
  - Positive Parenting course
  - NHS on line advice and guidance
  - ERIC and Henry
  - School Nurse / Health Visitor

### Early Help Assessments

Where school identifies that there are a number of emerging issues that a family may need support with, the school will meet with parents/carers to discuss the issues and complete a Derbyshire Early Help assessment. This will formally identify with parents/carers the main concerns that school has, and identify next steps and actions to improve things for the child/children. Other professionals such as the Health Visitor or School Nurse may be invited to such meetings where appropriate. Where it is known that children have siblings at other schools/settings, representatives from these schools/settings may also be invited to attend. Other professionals as appropriate, could also be invited. The aim of this process is to ensure the concerns are addressed and the situation improves for children. As such, follow up meetings will be held. Where the concerns identified have been addressed, in consultation with other professionals and parents/carers the early help process can finish. If through this process, concerns remain or are not being addressed, a referral could be made to Derbyshire Starting Point for Multi-agency team or social care support where their thresholds are met.

### Referrals to Derbyshire Starting Point

Where school identifies that concerns are significant enough to meet Derbyshire Multi-agency Team or Social Care thresholds a referral will be made through Derbyshire Starting Point. If appropriate, an Early Help assessment will be completed first to try to address the concerns. However, sometimes it will be necessary to make a direct referral. In most cases this will be discussed with parents/carers first, unless to do so could put the child at further risk.