

Worcester Sixth Form College Early Help for Students and Families

At Worcester Sixth Form College 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 help or signpost to external support as outlined in this offer of early help. We also have an advice and guidance booklet for parents on our website that covers a range of issues that affect young people.

The diagram below shows the range of needs at different levels. We use this graduated approach to make sure we provide the best support for different families' individual situations.



Providing Early Help to our students and families at Worcester Sixth Form College means we are more effective in promoting support as soon as we can.

Key Personnel:**The Designated Safeguarding Lead (DSL) is:** Graham WilliamsContact details: email: graham.williams@wsfc.ac.uk Telephone: 01905 362612**The Safeguarding Officer is:** Heather Anderson-StevensContact details: email: heather.anderson-stevens@wsfc.ac.uk Telephone: 01905 362614**The Deputy Designated Safeguarding Leads (DDSL) are :****1) Ellie Clayton**Contact details: email: eleanor.clayton@wsfc.ac.uk Telephone: 01905 362615**2) Michelle Collings**Contact details: email: michelle.colling@wsfc.ac.uk Telephone: 01905 362617**3) Sara Payne**Contact details: email: sara.payne@wsfc.ac.uk Telephone: 01905 362625**The nominated safeguarding governor is: Sean Devlin**Contact details: email: sean.devlin@wsfc.ac.uk Telephone: 01905 362602 (Jo Payne, Clerk)**The Principal is: Edward Senior**Contact details: email: ed.senior@wsfc.ac.uk Telephone: 01905 362606**The Chair of Governors is: Sean Devlin**Contact details: email: jo.payne@wsfc.ac.uk Telephone: 01905 362602



All staff receive safeguarding training which includes Prevent training. In addition the pastoral tutors have received extra bespoke training in areas such as Mental Health First Aid, Mental Health Champion, Young Carer Aware, Child Sexual Exploitation and Suicide Prevention.

At Worcester Sixth Form College we meet the needs of our students through a variety of ways:

- A designated safeguarding team. The safeguarding policy can be found on our website.
- Pastoral tutors monitor attendance and are the student's first point of call for anything they wish to discuss. They are situated in the Tutorial Hub and can be contacted directly by phone or by e-mail (see p.4).
- College counsellor five days a week
- Behaviour management, anti-bullying and e-safety policies (see website)
- The Learning Support Manager is responsible for the learning support team and all 'looked after' and previously looked after students. The learning support staff can provide one to one support and also offer drop in sessions across the week
- Fitness to Study assessment (within the Admissions policy on our website) which looks at reasonable adjustments to a student's programme of study when they have had serious health conditions and ways that extra support can be offered
- Quieter study areas around college and a quiet room known as the 'well-being' room
- Mental Health Ambassadors. This is a group of students trained by staff from the University of Worcester to support their peers. They also promote national Mental Health events in College.
- Student Services is a hub for careers, volunteering, work experience, university options, counselling, sexual health nurse and student ambassadors
- Designated Young Carer support (see own tutor)

See also following pages for contact details

In **Keeping Children Safe in Education 2024** it makes it clear that ALL staff should be aware of their local early help process and understand their role in it. In addition, this statutory document makes it clear that any child may benefit from early help, but all school and college staff should be particularly alert to the potential need for early help for a student who:

- is disabled and has specific additional needs;
- has special educational needs (whether or not they have a statutory education, health care plan);
- is a young carer;
- is showing signs of being drawn in to anti-social or criminal behaviour, including gang involvement and association with organised crime groups;
- is misusing drugs or alcohol themselves;
- is at risk of modern slavery, trafficking or exploitation;
- is in a family circumstance that presents challenges for the student; such as substance abuse, adult mental health problems or domestic abuse;
- has returned home to their family from care;

- is showing early signs of abuse and/or neglect;
- is at risk of being radicalised or exploited;
- is a privately fostered child.

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

The coordinated Worcester Sixth Form College offer of Early Help is outlined in the table below. We believe that early interventions for children or families, in many cases, will prevent young people from experiencing harm.

All Worcester Sixth Form College staff are aware of the College 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 student.

We also liaise with other agencies and people within the local community. In the table below is the College's Early Help offer and some external organisations that can support children, young people and their families

What is the Worcester Sixth Form College Early Help Offer?	
<p>Heads of Year</p> <p>Your child's Head of Year depends on the tutor they have. This will be on their timetable</p>	<p>Ellie Clayton eleonor.clayton@wsfc.ac.uk 01905 362615</p> <p>Michelle Collings michelle.collings@wsfc.ac.uk 01905 362617</p> <p>Sara Payne sara.payne@wsfc.ac.uk 01905 362625</p>
<p>Pastoral tutors</p> <p>Each student has a personal tutor who is usually the first point of call for any help a student may need.</p> <p>Tutors deliver a tutorial programme and provide attendance monitoring and support.</p> <p>All our tutors have received Youth Mental Health First Aid training and a range of bespoke pastoral training.</p>	<p>Call and speak to the tutorial receptionist who will be able to put you through to a tutor or take a message.</p> <p>Tutorial hub reception: 01905 362611</p>

<p>Learning Support</p> <p>Staff in this department can provide; One to one support, Drop in learning support across the week for a range of study skills and revision strategies Assessments for exam access arrangements Support for students with disabilities Core support and supervised study sessions Quiet study rooms, supervised by learning support staff</p>	<p>The learning support department office is based in the Learning Resources Centre (LRC). This is a study zone with computers, a quiet, silent study area and group study areas, books/ and journals.</p> <p>The Learning Support Manager is Sara Payne sara.payne@wsfc.ac.uk 01905 362625</p> <p>Sara Payne also has responsibility for looked after/previously looked after children and those on EHC plans</p>
<p>Student Services</p> <p>Student Services Hub provides a range of support for students in one place; Careers appointments Work experience and visits to employers Volunteer opportunities University talks and support for UCAS applications Annual careers and university fair Counselling 5 days a week Sexual health nurse (Time4U), Student ambassadors, Student council, Financial support</p>	<p>The Senior Leader for Student Progression and Enrichment is Andrew Fitzpatrick andrew.fitzpatrick@wsfc.ac.uk</p> <p>Contact student services reception who will put you through to the relevant member of staff 01905 362635</p>
<p>Mental Health Support</p> <p>Heads of Year and pastoral tutors have completed Youth Mental Health First Aid and suicide prevention training. Heads of Year have completed Applied Suicide Intervention Skills Training Students' mental health peer awareness group A quiet room 'The Retreat' for students who have anxiety Activities for national events such as World Mental Health day and Time to Talk day Promoting positive mental health tutorial Weekly art wellbeing group</p>	
<p>Student led groups</p> <p>Each year our Equality and Diversity co-ordinator will facilitate students to set up their own groups, for example Christian group, LGBTQ+ group</p>	<p>Students can speak to their tutor for more information about setting up a student group</p>
<p>Wyre Forest Nightstop</p> <p>We work with Nightstop who provide emergency accommodation, housing advice and family mediation</p>	<p>Nightstop are in college each month. We can liaise with them or call direct on 01562 743111 or 07483346776</p> <p>35/36 Worcester Street, Kidderminster, DY10 1EW</p>



	<p>Email: info@wfnightstop.org www.wyreforestnightstop.org.uk</p>
<p>There is a booklet with advice and guidance for parents on many aspects of a teen's life. This includes phone numbers and links to websites for further information.</p>	<p>See College website www.wsfc.ac.uk Click on the tab 'Supporting You' then 'Parent information/Guidance'</p>
<p>What is the Worcestershire Early Help Offer?</p>	
<p>Emotional & Wellbeing services</p> <p>A list of services in PDF format in Worcestershire https://www.wsfc.ac.uk/wp-content/uploads/2020/07/Worcestershire-Emotional-Health-Wellbeing-Services.pdf</p>	<p>http://www.worcestershire.gov.uk/here2help</p>
<p>Family support</p> <p>There are a number of organisations that will support young people and their families. For more information on these click on the link below and see the following pages;</p> <p>http://www.worcestershire.gov.uk/earlyhelpfamiliesupport</p> <p>Early Help means providing support as soon as a problem appears, to stop it from getting worse. This could be at any point in a child's life, from birth to the teenage years.</p> <p>The Family Hub – support for families. Download the Early Help offer at this link https://www.worcestershire.gov.uk/info/20643/the_family_hub</p>	<p>There is a lot of information and advice on the Advice, Care, Health and Support pages as well as detail of local services that can provide support for children, young people and families.</p> <p>Download: Worcestershire Special Educational Needs and Disabilities (SEND) strategy</p> <p>The Mix - www.themix.org.uk</p> <p>The Mix is the UK's leading support service for young people. They can provide support to help you take on any challenge you're facing - from mental health to money, from homelessness to finding a job, from break-ups to drugs. They provide a confidential helpline and Webchat service for young people. Free calls from mobiles and landlines: 0808 808 4994</p>
<p>The Front Door to Children's Services</p> <p>(Previously: Children's Helpdesk).</p>	<p>If a member of staff, parent/carer or member of the public thinks a child or young person is at immediate risk of significant harm they should contact the Family Front Door (FFD) 01905 822 666 or in an emergency always call 999.</p>



<p>WSCP (Worcestershire Safeguarding Children Partnership) website.</p> <p>www.safeguardingworcestershires.org.uk</p>	<p>Important information for parents and professionals across Worcestershire in relation to keeping children safe and avenues of support including early help options.</p> <p>This website has all of the agreed Worcestershire safeguarding and child protection processes on it.</p>
<p>Worcestershire County Council</p> <p>www.worcestershire.gov.uk/</p>	<p>The aim is to work with parents, carers and young people together and to offer advice and support before a situation reaches crisis point. They also work in partnership with, and may refer you to, other services and community groups, including education, health, housing, benefits agencies and the police that can help support you.</p>
<p>Universal source of help for all families in Worcestershire:</p> <p>Worcestershire Family Information Service (FIS)</p> <p>www.worcestershire.gov.uk/familyinformationservice</p>	<p>Worcestershire Family Information Service (FIS) advisors give impartial information on childcare, finances, parenting and education. 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. They can help link parents up with other organisations that might be able to help or provide the information themselves.</p>
<p>Specialist areas of support</p>	
<p>Bereavement services</p> <p>Support for bereaved children and their families in Worcestershire</p> <p>Cruse bereavement support - http://www.cruse.org.uk Free and confidential help for people who are bereaved (local and national support)</p>	<p>Worcester - St Richard's Hospice www.strichards.org.uk/our-care/supporting-the-family/bereavement-service/</p> <p>Worcestershire Footprints Support for Bereaved Children and their Families in Worcestershire</p> <p>NE Worcestershire https://touchstones-support.org.uk/</p> <p>Redditch & Kidderminster</p> <p>https://www.bereavementsupportworcestershires.org.uk/wp-</p>



	<p>content/uploads/2015/04/macmillan_support_young_people_primrose_hospice.pdf</p> <p>Winston's Wish www.winstonswish.org</p>
<p>Bullying (including cyberbullying)</p> <p>Cyberbullying is using the internet, email, online games or any digital technology to threaten, tease, upset or humiliate someone else.</p> <p>If the police consider a message or post to be potentially criminal, they will take appropriate action. This could involve arresting the person responsible or interviewing them under caution. Cases involving sustained abuse or where someone's life is threatened will be treated seriously. The police will consider all of the circumstances when considering the best response to a report of cyber bullying. They will assess how vulnerable the victim is and what resources are required to trace the offender via social networking sites that often operate abroad and to different legislation. They will work with the victim to bring about the most suitable and proportionate conclusion.</p>	<p>Useful links</p> <p>Bullying UK</p> <p>Childline</p> <p>KidScape: Our resources provide information on issues surrounding bullying, online and personal safety. They can be used directly by young people and parents, as well as in the classroom within schools and youth organisations.</p> <p>https://www.kidscape.org.uk/resources-and-publications/</p>
<p>Child Criminal Exploitation (County Lines)</p> <p>Children who are trafficked, exploited or coerced into committing crimes are victims in need of safeguarding and support. Though perceptions are altering these young people are still often criminalised and perceived as having 'made a choice' to take part in illegal activity.</p> <p>Get safe leaflet for parents;</p> <p>http://www.worcestershire.gov.uk/getsafe</p>	<p>Here is some guidance for frontline professionals on dealing with county lines, part of the government's approach to ending gang violence and exploitation:</p> <p>https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/criminal-exploitation-of-children-and-vulnerable-adults-county-lines</p> <p>https://www.catch-22.org.uk/child-criminal-exploitation/</p> <p>https://www.nspcc.org.uk/preventing-abuse/keeping-children-safe/staying-safe-away-from-home/gangs-young-people/</p>
<p>Child Sexual Exploitation (CSE)</p> <p>West Midlands Safeguarding Children Procedures has a page dedicated to Child Sexual</p>	<p>Useful Websites</p>



<p><u>Exploitation</u>. It provides information about child sexual exploitation, the roles and responsibilities of relevant agencies and the procedures practitioners should follow to ensure the safety and well-being of children and young people whom it is suspected have been sexually exploited or are at risk of sexual exploitation.</p> <p>Key facts about CSE</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • It affects both girls and boys and can happen in all communities. • Any young person can be targeted but there are some particularly vulnerable groups: Looked After Children, Children Leaving Care and Children with Disabilities. • Victims of CSE may also be trafficked (locally, nationally and internationally). • Over 70% of adults involved in prostitution were sexually exploited as children or teenagers. • Sexual violence or abuse against children affects 16% of children under 16. That is approximately 2 million children. 	<p><u>Barnardo's</u> spot the signs: Advice for parents, professionals and young people on the signs of sexual exploitation and how to keep safe</p> <p><u>The Branch Project</u> WMRSASC support service for children and young people under 18 years, or under 24 years for those with additional needs, who are victims and/or at risk of Child Sexual Exploitation (CSE).</p> <p><u>Department for Education (Gov.uk)</u> National Action Plan for Tackling Child Sexual Exploitation</p> <p><u>Parents Against Child Sexual Exploitation</u> pace is the leading national charity working with parents and carers whose children are sexually exploited</p> <p><u>NSPCC</u> definitions, statistics, facts and resources about CSE.</p> <p><u>NWG Network</u>: Fighting against CSE and working to inform, educate and prevent child sexual abuse within the UK.</p> <p>Spotting The Signs of Child Sexual Exploitation: a 15 minute YouTube clip from Health Education England</p>
<p>Counselling</p>	<p>Kooth https://www.kooth.com/ An online mental wellbeing community which provides free, safe and anonymous online support and counselling.</p> <p>Samaritans www.samaritans.org</p> <p>116 123 (free helpline) 24 hour confidential emotional support for anyone in distress</p> <p>Childline www.childline.org.uk 0800 11 11 free calls Confidential online chat with a counsellor and telephone helpline for anyone up to age 19 about anything that is worrying you</p>
<p>Court system (Children and the Court system)</p>	<p>There are two guides to support these children which can be found at www.gov.uk (young witness booklet for 5 to 11 year olds) which is a pdf. There is also a document called “going</p>



<p>Children are sometimes required to give evidence in courts, either for crimes committed against them or for crimes they have witnessed.</p>	<p>to court and being a witness age 12 to 17” which is also found at www.gov.uk.</p> <p>Making family arrangements via court can be stressful and entrench conflict in families. The ministry of Justice has just launched an online dispute resolution service. This can be useful to parents and carers. Got to www.gov.uk and search for “get help with arrangements.”</p>
<p>Domestic abuse</p> <p>Here is a very helpful website for what do to in many different difficult situations: http://www.worcestershire.gov.uk/info/20379/domestic-violence-and-sexual-abuse</p> <p>West Mercia Women's Aid: 0800 980 3331 0800 783 1359 helpline@westmerciawomensaid.org</p>	<p>Further reading</p> <p>Controlling or Coercive Behaviour in an Intimate or Family Relationship Statutory Guidance Framework (GOV.UK website, opens in a new window)</p> <p>Groups for parents - information and guidance</p> <p>Worcestershire Domestic Abuse Strategy 2017 - 2020 (click to download)</p> <p>Dawn project (for women) experiencing, or has experienced, domestic abuse.</p> <p>Respect - work with men and women who are harming their partners and families, as well as a confidential helpline for male victims of domestic abuse and those supporting them.</p>
<p>Drugs and Alcohol</p> <p>For support around drug or alcohol use. Swanswell can support you whether you're unsure if your substance use is a problem, you need structured treatment interventions or you require referral to a residential service. The support they provide is person-centred; they focus on what you see as important in helping you they achieve your recovery goals, whatever they may be. Swanswell work at your pace. Support includes one-to-one and group support, as well as medical interventions.</p> <p>We also work with West Mercia Safer Schools officers who will come into college do individual work with students around education about drugs, from a police/legal perspective</p>	<p>Swanswell (Cranstoun)</p> <p>https://www.cranstoun.org/services/substance-misuse/ Make a referral to our community services yourself, or through another agency by the phone or dropping in to see them (see the individual service pages on website for opening times).</p> <p>www.talktofrank.com Find out everything you need to know about drugs, their effects and the law. Talk to Frank for facts, support and advice on drugs and alcohol.</p> <p>Why Not Find Out - www.wnfo.org.uk Up to date information about the latest NPS /'club drugs' and information to help young people avoid drug related risks.</p>
<p>DDNs (Dangerous Drug Networks)</p>	

<p>DDN's are drug dealing gangs who target vulnerable people in order to set up drugs distribution networks.</p> <p>These criminals are using extreme violence to establish a presence, displacing an existing drug supply chain and intimidating rivals, witnesses and victims, this has resulted in local murders.</p> <p>DDN's exploit vulnerable teenagers to become drug runners for their network. Early intervention and intelligence are key to safeguard and protect the vulnerable.</p>	<p>Drug Gangs and Exploitation (PDF, 556.6 KB)</p>
<p>E-safety (Online Safety)</p> <p>Online Activity (phones, computers) can be a serious risk to children: The use of technology has become a significant component of many safeguarding issues. Child sexual exploitation; radicalisation; sexual predation – technology often provides the platform that facilitates harm. With the right support, education and safety measures in place the internet and new technologies can also bring great benefits but we must all be vigilant</p> <p>Internet matters - for support for parents and carers to keep their children safe online</p> <p>London Grid for Learning - for support for parents and carers to keep their children safe online</p> <p>Net-aware - for support for parents and careers from the NSPCC</p> <p>Parent info - for support for parents and carers to keep their children safe online</p> <p>Thinkuknow - for advice from the National Crime Agency to stay safe online</p> <p>UK Safer Internet Centre - advice for parents and carers</p>	<p>PACE (parents against child exploitation) UK is a useful website to engage parents with safety issues. www.paceuk.info/ www.thinkuknow.co.uk/parents/</p> <p>The Child Exploitation and Online Protection (CEOP) Centre is a one stop shop for most information about online safety. ceop.police.uk/safety-centre/</p> <p>The government website to help parents and professionals understand the risks of children and young people being radicalised by extremists online and how to keep children safe from this. http://educateagainsthate.com/</p> <p>www.internetmatters.org A great site for helping parents keep their children safe online.</p> <p>Please also see our recorded parent event on online safety https://www.wsfc.ac.uk/for-parents/</p>



<p>Fabricated and induced illness (FII)</p>	<p>Fabricated or induced illness (FII) is a rare form of child abuse. It occurs when a parent or carer , exaggerates or deliberately causes symptoms of illness in the child.</p> <p>https://www.nhs.uk/conditions/Fabricated-or-induced-illness/</p>
<p>Faith abuse</p> <p>Faith and belief-based child abuse, including practices around ‘spirit possession’ and ‘witchcraft’, is a hidden crime, which makes it difficult to quantify in terms of magnitude. However, from our own experience and in consultation with communities, we know this kind of abuse is under-reported.</p> <p>www.gov.uk/government/publications/national-action-plan-to-tackle-child-abuse-linked-to-faith-or-belief</p>	<p>Further contacts for advice can be found from the local representatives for some faiths.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • An Exploration of Knowledge About Child Abuse Linked to Faith or Belief (2016) • National Action Plan to Tackle Child Abuse Linked to Faith or Belief (2012) • Safeguarding Children from Abuse Linked to a Belief in Spirit Possession (2007) this good practice guidance is archived but still available. • Eleanor Stobart report 2006: Child Abuse Linked To Accusations of Possession And Witchcraft (2006) • Unicef study report: Children Accused of Witchcraft • AFRUCA: Africans Unite Against Child Abuse
<p>Family relationships</p> <p>We are all living in very difficult and uncertain times, this may mean disagreements are more likely to occur amongst people living together in these circumstances.</p> <p>This is a very normal way to be responding to these difficult times and whether you’re parenting together or apart, there are ways in which we can stop this from increasing stress and anxiety within our homes particularly when children are present.</p> <p>Support with things like managing your child’s behaviour, talking to your child about Coronavirus or dealing with anxiety is available from Worcestershire’s Starting Well service. You can request support from Starting Well (opens in new window)</p>	<p>Wyre Forest Nightstop support young people (11-25) and their families by offering Time2Talk mediation to resolve conflict and prevent family breakdown.</p> <p>https://www.hacw.nhs.uk/starting-well/</p>
<p>Female genital mutilation (FGM)</p>	



<p>Female Genital Mutilation (FGM) comprises all procedures involving partial or total removal or the external female genitalia. FGM is illegal in the UK and as of October 2015 mandatory reporting commenced. If education staff or other professionals discovers that an act FGM appears to have been carried out on a girl under 18 years old there is a statutory (legal) duty on teachers for them PERSONALLY to report it to the police.</p> <p>FGM is violence against women and girls. So called 'Honour' based violence are a violation against human rights and is a high priority area of the national and local Violence Against Women and Girls Agenda. It is, primarily an issue for young women and girls aged between 13 and 30 years.</p>	<p>Read http://www.nhs.uk/Conditions/female-genitalmutilation for NHS information and signs of FGM. Any suspicion of FGM should be referred to the Police and social care.</p> <p>- E-learning package- http://www.fgmelearning.co.uk/ for interested staff or professionals (free home office elearning)</p> <p>Hope House SARC (Sexual Assault Referral Centre): 01452 754390</p>
<p>Forced marriage</p> <p>What is forced marriage? (see link below) https://www.gov.uk/stop-forced-marriage</p>	<p>UK Forced Marriage Unit fmu@fco.gov.uk Telephone: 020 7008 0151 Call 999 (police) in an emergency. www.gov.uk/stop-forced-marriage for information on Forced Marriage. Visit Home Office website to undertake Forced Marriage e-learning package https://www.gov.uk/forced-marriage. GSCB one day Awareness training delivered by Infobuzz www.gscb.org.uk Please see 'Multi-Agency Practice Guidelines- Handling cases of Forced Marriage' for more information and detail: https://www.gov.uk/forcedmarriage.</p> <p>Prevention Freedom Charity- Aneeta Prem 'But it's not fair' book. A book for teenagers looking at forced marriage from the point of view of school friends of the girl who went to India and didn't come back. This book promotes discussion. www.freedomcharity.org.uk The Freedom Charity (UK charity) have a helpline, text facility and app which can be downloaded to help to provide support and protection for victims of abuse, FGM or forced marriage. They can be contacted on tel: 0845 607 0133 or text 4freedom to 88802 or go to the website to download the app from the app page.</p>
<p>Gangs and youth violence</p> <p>https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/418131/Preventing_youth_violence_and_gang_involvement_v3_March2015.pdf</p>	<p>Website for the Youth Violence Prevention Initiative:</p> <p>http://www.worcesterma.gov/youth-opportunities/youth-violence-prevention</p>



<p>Gender-based violence/violence against women and girls</p> <p>https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/violence-against-women-and-girls-evidence-digest-january-2018</p>	<p>For information about West Mercia Rape and Sexual Abuse visit: https://www.wmrsasc.org.uk/</p> <p>www.onyourmindglos.nhs.uk for 'I've been raped or sexually assaulted' information.</p>
<p>Gender Identity Issues</p> <p>An online support group for Transgender young people and those exploring their gender identity, aged 13-19.</p> <p>www.startingwellworcs.nhs.uk/identity</p>	<p>The Gender Trust is a listening ear, a caring support and an information centre for anyone with any question concerning their gender identity, or whose loved one is struggling with gender identity issues. People who might be Transgender, Transsexual or people who do not identify with the gender they were assigned at birth or those who are simply unsure. Address: 76 The Ridgeway, Astwood Bank, B96 6LX tel: 0845 231 0505 www.gendertrust.org.uk</p> <p>If your child is struggling with their gender or thinks they are transgender, the following link has advice and information on what you can do and where you can get help.</p> <p>https://www.youngminds.org.uk/parent/a-z-guide/gender-identity/</p>
<p>Hate Crime</p> <p>A hate crime is a criminal offense whose motivation can be shown to be race, national origin, religion or sexual orientation. A difference of race alone is NOT sufficient to make it a hate crime. There would have to be evidence of racial slurs or racial statements in addition to the crime (this does not trivialise other serious offenses that are NOT hate crimes).</p>	<p>Hate Crime:</p> <p>West Mercia Police: Email: contactus@westmercia.police.uk Emergency number: 999 Non-Emergency number: 101</p> <p>report online to True Vision (opens in a new window)</p> <p>https://educateagainsthate.com/parents/ <i>Call in at your local police station</i></p>
<p>Mental health support</p> <p>Our website has a list of links for mental health support during the COVID-19 pandemic. Go to our dedicated COVID tab to see this list.</p> <p>There are a number of local and national organisations for support for mental health</p>	<p>Worcestershire Healthy Minds – for young people aged 16 yrs and over. This has different options for support and leaflets to download; https://www.hacw.nhs.uk/about-healthy-minds/</p> <p>Reach4wellbeing – for young people aged 5-18 yrs who are experiencing mild to moderate low mood and anxiety https://www.hacw.nhs.uk/reach4wellbeing/</p> <p>Worcestershire CAMHS - https://www.hacw.nhs.uk/camhs</p>



	<p>Young Minds mental health charity for children, young people and parents</p> <p>NHS Get Your Mind Plan</p> <p>NHS mental health - find information and support for your mental health</p> <p>NHS Every Mind Matters</p>
<p>Hollie Guard - A personal safety app https://hollieguard.com</p>	<p>Children & Teens Hollie Guard keeps your entire family safe. Keeps an eye on your children while they're traveling to and from school with Journey. Teens can get help quickly while out with friends. Parents, guardians, and caregivers are automatically contacted by both SMS and email.</p>
<p>Honour based violence (HBV)</p> <p>Honour' based violence (HBV) occurs when perpetrators believe a relative or other individual has shamed or damaged a family's or community's 'honour' or reputation (known in some communities as izzat), and that the only way to redeem the damaged 'honour' is to punish and/or kill the individual.</p> <p>'Honour' based violence is a term that is widely used to describe this sort of abuse however it is often referred to as so called 'honour' based violence because the concept of 'honour' is used by perpetrators to make excuses for their abuse.</p> <p>So called 'Honour' based violence are a violation against human rights and is a high priority area of the national and local Violence Against Women and Girls Agenda. It is, primarily an issue for young women and girls aged between 13 and 30 years. Hope House SARC (Sexual Assault Referral Centre): 01452 754390</p>	<p>There is a very strong link between 'honour' based violence, forced marriage and domestic abuse. The term 'Honour Based Violence' is the internationally recognised term describing cultural justifications for violence and abuse. Honour Based Violence cuts across all cultures and communities: Turkish, Kurdish, Afghani, South Asian, African, Middle Eastern, South and Eastern European for example. This is not an exhaustive list. Where a culture is heavily male dominated, HBV may exist. The police have made it a high priority to help communities fight back to tackle both honour based violence and hate crime.</p> <p>The 'Honour Network Help line': 0800 5 999 247</p>
<p>Missing Children and Adults Strategy (vulnerable children and adults who go missing)</p> <p>Every year an estimated 200,000 people go missing in the UK. In some cases, missing adults</p>	<p>The Missing Children and Adults strategy can then be referred to for further information and help. It is a home office publication (2011).</p>



<p>may have made a choice to leave and ‘start their lives over again’, but the vast majority of missing people, children and adults, are vulnerable and need protection and support. The police should be informed if any child or adult goes missing</p>	<p>https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/missing-children-and-adults-strategy</p> <p>https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/117793/missing-persons-strategy.pdf</p>
<p>Preventing Radicalisation and Extremism/HATE (PREVENT duty)</p> <p>While it remains very rare for school age children to become involved in extremist activity to the point of committing criminal acts, young people can be exposed to extremist influences or prejudiced views, including via the internet, from an early age. As with other forms of criminality or risk of harm, early intervention is always preferable. Schools, working with other local partners, families and communities, can help support pupils who may be vulnerable as part of wider safeguarding responsibilities. Channel guidance: https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/425189/Channel_Duty_Guidance_April_2015.pdf</p>	<p>www.educateagainsthate.com is the government website providing information and practical advice for parents, teachers and schools leaders on protecting children from radicalisation and extremism.</p> <p>Anti-Terrorist Hotline: tel 0800 789 321 also be raised by email to the Home office: counter.extremism@education.gsi.gov.uk.</p> <p>Let’s talk about it is an excellent website for parents: www.ltai.info/ as is www.preventtragedies.co.uk</p>
<p>Prison</p> <p>Children with family members in prison</p> <p>Approximately 200,000 children have a parent sent to prison each year. These children are at risk of poor outcomes including poverty, stigma, isolation and poor mental health.</p>	<p>NICCO provides information to support professionals working with offenders and their children to help mitigate the negative consequences for these children. www.nicco.org.uk</p> <p>https://www.solgrid.org.uk/education/safeguarding/child-protection/issues/children-family-prison/</p>
<p>Private fostering</p> <p>Kinship Care means that relatives or friends look after children who cannot live with their parents. Visit this website for more information: http://www.worcestershire.gov.uk/privatefostering</p>	<p>National Fostering Agency (NFA) Call on: 0808 284 9226</p>



SEND

Children with disabilities team (CWD)

The Children with Disabilities (CwD) Social Work Team provide services designed to meet the needs of children and young people who have complex disabilities.

The CwD Social Work Team is one of a range of services that can provide support to children and young people with disabilities and their families. Other services available are those provided by health, education, play and youth services as well as community resources provided by voluntary agencies.

The CwD team offer services to those children and young people requiring additional resources in respect of their disability, where the disability has a profound impact on the child or young person's life.

An assessment will be offered where the child has a condition which is substantial, long lasting or permanent, is a physical and/or learning disability or a life limiting, life threatening condition. These may include:

- severe learning disabilities
- severe physical disabilities
- severe developmental delay in motor and or cognitive functioning
- profound multiple disabilities
- severe sensory impairment (registered blind and/or profoundly deaf)
- complex and severe health problems that arise from the disability, that are life threatening, degenerative illness or organic disorder resulting in severe disability
- a diagnosis of Autistic Spectrum Condition with an associated learning disability and where the condition severely affects day to day functioning

Support for families with a disabled child;

<https://www.familyfund.org.uk/>

SEN Services and Support Groups

[autismlinks](#)

Links to events, services and information of use to families of people with Autism

[Autism Spectrum Condition and Learning Disabilities Group](#), a group for family members and carers, Kidderminster Hospital

[Autism West Midlands](#) a support group for young people aged 16-24 with Asperger's Syndrome in the Malvern Hills area

[Autism in Worcestershire](#)

ASPIE is a social self-help and motivation group for adults with Asperger's Syndrome. We provide a centre in Worcester where Aspies feel welcome and accepted.

Childrens Centres. Find out what's happening at [your local Children's Centre](#)

Community Paediatric Service

Community Paediatric Service is concerned with developmental delay and learning disability; Motor difficulties such as cerebral palsy and muscular dystrophy; Neuro-developmental conditions including ADHD and ASD; complex behavioural difficulties; sensory impairment; statutory medical & educational assessments ([The Community Paediatric Service South Worcestershire](#), [The Community Paediatric Service Wyre Forest](#) and [The Community Paediatric Service Redditch and Bromsgrove](#))

From August 2018 onwards, parents, children and young people be able to access information, advice and support on statutory assessment and annual reviews from your local SENDIASS.

[Council for Disabled Children](#)

A host of useful leaflets on SEND issues many in Easy Read format to help children understand

[Disability Information Advice Line \(DIAL\) Worcestershire](#)

Website of the disability advice line South Worcestershire; local info on: Mobility; Benefits and Finance; Carers Support and Respite; Community and Voluntary Support; Disabled Children's Services; Education and Employment; Health; Housing; Independent



	<p>Living; Learning Disabilities; Legal Support; Leisure and Holidays; Mental Health; Mobility and Aids to Daily Living and Older People's Services</p> <p>Dyslexia Parent Support Group. Find out more from the Worcestershire Dyslexic Support Group</p> <p>Learning Disabilities (opens in a new window) We work with people with learning disabilities, their families and the people who support them.</p>
<p>Sexting/Sextortion/youth produced imagery Youth Produced Sexual Imagery (YPSI) can be defined as sexual, naked or semi-naked photos or videos generated by a young person (under 18) of themselves; these images may be shared between children and young people directly via mobile phones, webcams or online. This is sometimes referred to as "sexting".</p>	<p>http://www.nspcc.org.uk/preventing-abuse/keepingchildren-safe/sexting (NSPCC website).</p> <p>https://www.westmercia.police.uk/article/8206/Sexting (West Mercia Police website)</p>
<p>Sexual health services Sexual health clinics in Worcestershire www.hacw.nhs.uk/clinics</p>	<p>Worcestershire Integrated Sexual Health Service (WISH) - www.hacw.nhs.uk/knowyourstuff</p> <p>Friendly, non-judgemental, specialist services across Worcestershire, supporting you to manage your sexual health.</p>
<p>Sexual violence and sexual harassment between children in schools and colleges & Sexual Abuse The link below is advice from the WCC webpage: http://www.worcestershire.gov.uk/info/20379/domestic_abuse_and_sexual_violence/886/sexual_violence_and_abuse</p>	<p>West Mercia Rape and Sexual Abuse Support Centre: https://www.wmrsasc.org.uk/ 01905 724 514</p> <p><u>Helpline opening times:</u> Monday – 7.30 pm - 9.30 pm Tuesday 1.00 pm – 5.00 pm Thursday – 7.30 pm - 9.30 pm Friday – 10.00 pm – 2.00 pm</p> <p>Barnardo's Beacon service support for survivors/victims of child sexual abuse</p>
<p>Stalking General Advice:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ If it doesn't feel right it probably isn't! ▪ Seek support from trusted family/friends ▪ Report to the police and do this early 	<p>National Stalking Helpline For advice and support. The helpline will operate a triage service for local support and make referrals -Phone: 0808 802 0300 Website: www.stalkinghelpline.org Email: advice@stalkinghelpline.org</p>



<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Keep a diary in a secure location ▪ Screenshot emails etc and save them ▪ Photograph/video your stalker if safely possible. ▪ Get advice: Hollie Gazzard Trust, Paladin etc... ▪ Tighten security; home, work and on-line 	<p>Paladin: National Stalking Advocacy Service For advice and referral. Phone line: 020 3866 4107 Email: info@paladinservice.co.uk Website: www.paladinservice.co.uk/</p> <p>Hollie Gazzard Trust https://holliegazzard.org/</p>
<p>Teenage relationship abuse</p> <p>Here is a great PDF helping to understand teenage relationship abuse:</p> <p>U:\U161 CHS\U695 Education Safeguarding\G3 SG\AAA .Education Adviser Safeguarding\G1 Mgt & Admin\03.Education Adviser -Safeguarding files\Admin Assisstant\A parents and carers guide to violence and abuse in teenage relationships.pdf</p>	<p>Crush CRUSH is an awareness raising and support programme to help young people make safe and healthy relationships. The sessions are run in small groups and are specifically designed for 13-19 year olds. http://www.westmerciawomensaid.org/crush/</p>
<p>Victim Support</p>	<p>www.victimsupport.org.uk/ Confidential support for anyone who is a victim of crime 0808 168 9111</p>
<p>Young Carers support information</p> <p>www.worcestershire.gov.uk/info/20905/young_carers_and_young_adult_carers/1733/support_for_young_carers_and_young_adult_carers</p>	<p>Worcestershire Young Carers provides assessment, signposting, one to one support and monthly youth clubs for young people with a caring role at home, aged between seven and 17, who live in Worcestershire. They also support young adult carers aged between 18 and 25. The caring role could be for a parent, a sibling or a grandparent due to illness, disability, physical or mental health difficulties or substance misuse.</p> <p>https://www.yss.org.uk/worcestershire-young-carers</p>