



Vision: Inspiring Success

Values: Determination, Courage, Respect

Getting help early for our children and families

2021

As an Infant School we are committed to early intervention to support any of our vulnerable learners. Within the “Local Authority” of Surrey, this is described as “ Early Help” within the “Effective Family Resilience” document.

At the Orchard we identify and describe vulnerable learners as children who have experienced or are experiencing:

- being Looked After or having been Looked After in the past (by the Local Authority/Foster Parents)
- family financial hardship
- inadequate housing
- a marital break up
- acrimonious separated parents
- bereavement
- anxiety
- poor attendance/punctuality
- being a Young Carer
- difficulties with learning
- Domestic Violence
- attachment difficulty
- health problems (self or within the family)
- problems with eating, toileting or sleeping
- Special Educational Needs and Disabilities
- difficulties in regulating emotion and/or behaviour
- a traumatic experience
- neglect
- home environment where non- prescription drugs are used
- home environment where alcohol is abused.
- any other difficulties which are affecting the child’s wellbeing and learning

Identification of need

Identification can occur at any time as all staff are trained to be vigilant of need, communicate with families and be approachable. Senior Staff are also trained to be

approachable so that any member of staff can raise a concern about a child. Pink slip cause for concern sheets are available in every class and in the staffroom and these are given by hand to the DSL. In addition, there are fail safe systems to ensure we identify our vulnerable children:

- Staff refer to the “Effective Family Resilience Surrey” document.
- Each week year team leaders meet with their teams and any vulnerable children are brought to the attention of the Year Team leader
- Each week staff are reminded about safeguarding and vulnerable children in the whole staff bulletin
- Each month in Leadership Meetings any vulnerable children are brought to the attention of the Head Teacher and a strategy agreed.
- Each term the Head Teacher is required to report the number of vulnerable children who have been identified to the Governing Body and questions will be asked as to how the children are being supported.

Support

There are a range of Staff and resources available **in school** in addition to Staff who we can refer to from **outside agencies**. The following people can be part of a support team around a family who will meet and review support on a regular basis identifying key actions and ensuring they are carried out.

- Designated Safeguarding Lead (Head Teacher)
- Designated Teacher for Looked after and Post Looked after children (Head Teacher)
- Pastoral Support and Pupil Premium Support Leader (Assistant Head Teacher)
- SENCO
- Home School Link Worker
- ELSA (Emotional Literacy Support Assistant)
- After School and Breakfast Club Provision
- School Attendance Officer
- School Nurse
- Primary Mental Health Worker
- Inclusion Officer (Local Authority)
- Outside agencies for SEND: eg SALT, OT, STIPS team Linden Bridge Outreach, CAMHS, etc
- Action for Children (Surrey Young Carers)
- GP
- Outreach nurse for child with identified health condition
- Family Support Worker

These professionals may also be able to sign-post or refer to other agencies for support.

Where there is concern that School based Early Help is not sufficient to meet the needs of a child and a child is at risk of harm a call will be made to CSPA for consultation advice or for referral.

Monitoring and Evaluation

The Designated Safeguarding Leaders meet weekly and monitor need and evaluate risk and will refer children to Surrey's CSPA where further help is required or a child is deemed to be at risk of harm. The Senior Leadership team will monitor trends and incidence of need every term with the full Governing Body. The Governing Body will review the data each year to make any proposals for staffing and budget arrangements for the following Financial Year. It is proposed that once a year all those involved within and external to the school in providing early help will meet to discuss trends and future needs, evaluate impact of any provision and contribute to a whole school strategy.

September 2021