



ContinU Plus Academy

Supporting Families

September 2023- 2024

This policy is reviewed at least annually by the governing body and was

Last reviewed on Date: July 2023

Next Review Date: July 2024

Signature..... (Chair of Governors)

Print Name- Julie Reilly

Signature..... (Head Teacher)

Print Name- Sara Devo

Support for Children and Families

Key Personnel and job roles

Sara Devo- Head Teacher/ DDSL - sd263@cpa.worcs.sch.uk

Aimee Wootton- Assistant Head teacher- SENCO/DSL - ab645@cpa.worcs.sch.uk

Luke Parrock- Deputy Head teacher- lep53@cpa.worcs.sch.uk

Tracey Roberts- Deputy Head teacher- trr26@cpa.worcs.sch.uk

Pastoral Team-

Sammie Sexton- Assistant SENCO - showells-sexton@cpa.worcs.sch.uk

Ellie Moran – Assistant SENCO - emoran@cpa.worcs.sch.uk

Rebecca Harker - Head of KS3 - rharker@cpa.worcs.sch.uk

Toqeer Hassain - Head of KS4 - thussain@cpa.worcs.sch.uk

Helen Clarke - Head of KS5 - hclarke@cpa.worcs.sch.uk

When the above personnel meet, they discuss:

- How the young person presents?
- Friendships
- Family Issues
- Additional needs
- Any additional support they receive
- Safeguarding concerns
- Mental Health and Wellbeing
- Behaviour, Attendance and punctuality
- Attitudes to learning
- Other agencies involved with the child/family

This allows us to identify any students and families that would benefit from early help (We use Worcestershire's Early help assessment tool) and allows us to help the child/family access the services and support they need both in school and beyond.

How we meet the needs of our young people

- Consistent use of the behaviour for learning protocols enable our students learn in a calm and purposeful atmosphere where each student can achieve to the best of their ability, without disruption from others.
- Students are encouraged to speak up about any concerns to a member of staff within the pastoral team. In Lessons students are taught to speak openly about emotions. Students are aware that staff take all concerns and emotions very seriously.
- Student questionnaires ascertain whether students feel happy and safe.
- E-safety assemblies are delivered to all students

- Anti-bullying assemblies and theatre groups deliver plays to tackle issues surrounding bullying including cyber-bullying.
- E-safety advice offered to parents/carers
- Our local PC conducts assemblies and workshops for safety beyond the school and other relevant topics.
- High staff presence during unstructured times.
- School nurse/Sexual health nurse offer weekly drop in appointments.
- SLT/SENCo Drop ins
- The DSL attends the Wyre Forest District Schools' panel.
- PSHE Lessons
- Pastoral Mentoring
- Exam Stress Support Groups
- Relaxation Support Groups
- 1:1 support/learning coach
- Mentor link sessions
- School counsellor sessions.

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 The ContinU Plus Academy 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.

Attendance

- If a student is absent from morning registration and the school has not had contact from the parent/carer to explain the reason, the school will contact the parent/carer. We take our safeguarding responsibilities seriously and will always contact parents/carers to ensure they are aware of their child's absence.
- If a message is left for a parent/carer advising of their child's unexplained absence from school, the parent/carer should contact the Attendance Welfare Officer or the school office as soon as possible to advise of the reason for their child's absence.
- If no response is received the Attendance Welfare Officer will phone later in the day to enquire about the unexplained absence. We ask that parents/carers keep school informed of any changes to their contact details so we can always get in touch with them in case of emergency.
- Where a child's absence is a cause for concern, the Attendance Welfare Officer will visit parents/carers at home or invite them in to school to discuss any issues and work together, as a partnership, to support and improve their attendance.
- The Attendance Officer liaises with the SENCO/Designated Safeguarding Lead and the Pastoral Lead to inform them of any causes for concern.
- Attendance welfare officer is led by Jenny Locker- jlockyer@cpa.worcs.sch.uk

Behaviour

All students at the CPA can and should do well. Students are monitored daily through RAISE point sheets and are rewarded on a daily, weekly, half termly basis. Their pathway to success is supported by the RAISE system, a heavily structured behavioural system that scaffolds all school life.

Safeguarding

If you have any safeguarding concerns regarding a child at our school or in the community, then please contact a member of our safeguarding team on 01562822463.

If you think a child or young person is at immediate risk of significant harm, then you should contact the Worcestershire family front door (FFD) – 01905 822 666 or in an emergency always call 999.

The Designated Safeguarding Lead (DSL) ensures all systems are in place within the school to ensure the safety of all our children. In addition, Aimee is head of the SENCO department working with the children and families with additional needs and can signpost parents/carers to different agencies depending on the student or parent/carer needs;

- All teachers and staff know precisely how to identify and report concerns, via staff training on induction and our regular updates on safeguarding.
- We use the CPOMs database where electronic files are kept securely.
- Child protection paper files are kept securely.
- Our Attendance Team follow children missing from education guidance (see above)
- All new staff complete safeguarding training and this is recorded in the staff training log.
- We have a designated teacher and achievement leader for children in the looked after system and those previously in care.
- We have a record of all staff that have read and understand Keeping Children Safe in Education (September 2022).

Training

PREVENT – Radicalisation

All staff have completed the PREVENT training on how to identify early stages of radicalisation and what to do.

Female Genital Mutilation (FGM) –

All staff have completed the Female Genital Mutilation training on how to identify early stages of radicalisation and what to do.

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.

Operation Encompass –

[Keeping Children safe in education](#)

Useful Information

Dr Mark Thresh

We employ Dr Mark Thresh, who is a school counsellor to attend the school on Thursday to work with students the SENCo team feel would benefit from additional support with their mental and emotional wellbeing.

School Nurse

Our School Nurse is Ann-Marie Hewlett-Lloyd. If you wish for your child to see the school nurse, please contact Sammie Sexton and she will arrange an appointment for you.

Children's Services

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 Worcestershire Family Front Door (FFD) – 01905 822 666 or in an emergency always call 999. Do not wait to discuss this with the DSL/DDSL but do report it afterwards.

WSCP (Worcestershire Safeguarding Children's Partnership)

Holds important information for parents/carers and professionals across Worcestershire in relation to keeping children safe and cites avenues of support including early help options. Please see the website at <https://www.safeguardingworcestershire.org.uk/>

Worcestershire Family Information Service (FIS)

[Worcestershire Family Information Service](#) (FIS) advisors give impartial information on childcare, finances, parenting and education. FIS are a useful source of information for parents/carers 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/carers up with other organisations that might be able to help or provide the information themselves.

Worcestershire Starting Well Partnership

The partnership will enhance the support available to children, young people and families across the county, providing help during antenatal, post birth, and early years' stages, and right throughout school life. Due to the current Coronavirus epidemic, the service will not be fully operational at this time, but will include Family Hubs in each of our local districts, and will offer family and parenting groups supporting all aspects of physical and mental wellbeing for children, young people and their families Please see the website www.startingwellworcs.nhs.uk

Child Criminal Exploitation - Here is some guidance for frontline professionals on dealing with county lines, part of the government's approach to ending gang violence and exploitation: <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/criminal-exploitation-of-children-and-vulnerable-adults-county-lines> 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. Please see the website at <https://www.catch-22.org.uk/child-criminal-exploitation/>

Child Sexual Exploitation - West Midlands Safeguarding Children Procedures has a page dedicated to [Child Sexual Exploitation](#). 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.

Please see the information at: [Appropriate Language: Child Sexual and/or Criminal Exploitation Guidance for Professionals \(CSE Police and Prevention website, opens in a new window\)](#)

Useful Websites

- [Barnardo's](#) spot the signs: advice for parents, professionals and young people on the signs of sexual exploitation and how to keep safe
- [Department for Education \(Gov.uk\)](#) National Action Plan for Tackling Child Sexual Exploitation
- [Parents Against Child Sexual Exploitation](#) pace is the leading national charity working with parents and carers whose children are sexually exploited
- [NSPCC](#) definitions, statistics, facts and resources about CSE.
- [NWG Network](#): Fighting against CSE and working to inform, educate and prevent child sexual abuse

Local Services

Please include information on the services available in your local area / district...

Family Hub –	What’s on during the school holidays? (e.g. Ready, Steady, Worcestershire, youth groups, clubs and activities) YMCA Kidderminster Youth Club Worcestershire County Council Groups and Activities for young people
Youth and Community Centre –	Wyre Forest Foodbank Kidderminster & District Youth Trust
Early Help Family Support District Team –	Worcestershire Libraries Worcestershire County Council

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** offers a range of health services which support both children and families experiencing a range of health issues.

[Worcestershire Health Visiting Service | Starting Well \(startingwellworcs.nhs.uk\)](https://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 till 3pm). A Health Visitor will assist you over the phone with any worries, concerns, or questions you have.

[School Health Nursing | Starting Well \(startingwellworcs.nhs.uk\)](https://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.

[Lucy Faithful Foundation](https://www.lucyfaithful.org)

The **Lucy Faithfull Foundation** is the only UK-wide child protection charity dedicated solely to preventing child sexual abuse. We work closely with frontline workers and professionals such as police officers, social workers and education staff to ensure children are as safe as they can be.

[Text service supporting young people | Starting Well \(startingwellworcs.nhs.uk\)](https://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 \(onside-advocacy.org.uk\)](https://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.

[CAMHS | Herefordshire and Worcestershire Health and Care NHS Trust \(hacw.nhs.uk\)](https://hacw.nhs.uk)

CAMHS provides mental health help to children, young people and their families across Herefordshire and Worcestershire

[Home - Kooth](https://www.kooth.com)

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 \(hacw.nhs.uk\)](https://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.

[MentorLink](https://www.mentorlink.org)

Mentorlink provides vulnerable and distressed young people with a volunteer mentor whom are fully trained adults to listen and offer support and guidance during difficult times such as self-harm, bullying, traumatic bereavement and family breakdown.

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

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

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

Healthy Minds' 24/7 mental health helpline provides support or advice if you, or someone you know, is experiencing a mental health crisis and needs urgent help. Its available 24 hours a day to anyone in Herefordshire and Worcestershire.

[MIND](#)

0300 123 3393 or text 86463

[Anxiety UK](#)

02444 775 774

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

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

[Sexual Health Know Your Stuff | 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. 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? | Worcestershire County Council](#)

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

[Cyberbullying | Worcestershire County Council](#)

[Kidscape | Resources and Publications](#)

[Childline](#)

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:

- [Think U Know | Information for parents](#)
- [Online safety | Barnardo's \(barnardos.org.uk\)](#)
- [Educate Against Hate](#)
- [www.internetmatters.org](#)
- [BBC | 8 tips for staying safe online](#)
- [www.paceuk.info/](#)

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

[Sexting and sending nudes | NSPCC](#)

[Think U Know | Parents Sexting Guide](#)

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 | Worcestershire County Council](#)
- CRUSH is an awareness raising and support programme to help young people make safe and healthy relationships. <http://www.westmerciawomensaid.org/crush/>
- [Relationships | The Family Hub | Worcestershire County Council](#)
- [Private Fostering](#)

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 - Signs to spot \(opens in a new window\)](#)

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

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

SEND (Special Educational Needs and/or Disabilities)

Aimee Wootton (SENCO) works with children and families with additional needs and can signpost parents/carers to different agencies depending on the student or parent/carer needs. If you are looking for information or advice the following links will help you:

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

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

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

- Links to events, services and information of use to families of people with autism: [autismlinks](#)
- A group who meet at Kidderminster Hospital to support family members and carers: [Autism Spectrum Condition and Learning Disabilities Group](#)
- A support group for young people aged 16-24 with Asperger's Syndrome in the Malvern Hills area: [Autism West Midlands](#)
- [The 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.
- Dyslexia Parent Support Group: [Worcestershire Dyslexic Support Group](#)



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.

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



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: [The 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](#) or [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:

[Kidderminster Job Centre Plus](#), Crossley Retail Park, Carpet Traders Way, Kidderminster, DY11 6DY

[Worcester Job Centre Plus](#), Vine House, Farrier Street, Worcester, WR1 3EL

Telephone: 0845 6043719

Citizen's Advice Bureau [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

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)

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.

www.homestartwyreforest.org.uk

Private Fostering - National Fostering Agency (NFA) Kinship Care Kinship care means that relatives or friends look after children who cannot live with their parents. Visit this website for more information: [Private Fostering](#)

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: [Family Information Service | Worcestershire County Council](#)

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?

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.

[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: YSS.org.uk

Get Safe

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.

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.

APPENDIX 1

MY EARLY HELP ASSESSMENT



FAMILY MEMBER NAME:
DATE:

CHILD'S NAME:

PRACTITIONER NAME:

CONTEXT:

--

OTHER AGENCIES INVOLVED WITH YOUR CHILD/SHARING INFORMATION AND CONSENT

NAME	AGENCY	ROLE WITH CHILD / FAMILY	CONTACT DETAILS

WHAT ARE WE WORRIED ABOUT?

--

WHAT IS GOING WELL?

--

WHAT NEEDS TO HAPPEN?

--

“On a scale of 0-10 where 10 means this problem is sorted out as much as it can be and zero means things are so bad for the young person you need to get professional or other outside help , where do you rate this situation today ?”

											
Parent / carer	0 <input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/>	1 <input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/>	2 <input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/>	3 <input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/>	4 <input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/>	5 <input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/>	6 <input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/>	7 <input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/>	8 <input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/>	9 <input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/>	10 <input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/>
Practitioner	0 <input type="checkbox"/>	1 <input type="checkbox"/>	2 <input type="checkbox"/>	3 <input type="checkbox"/>	4 <input type="checkbox"/>	5 <input type="checkbox"/>	6 <input type="checkbox"/>	7 <input type="checkbox"/>	8 <input type="checkbox"/>	9 <input type="checkbox"/>	10 <input type="checkbox"/>
Child(ren)	0	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10

ACTION PLAN

What action has been identified as needing to happen by the family?	Who will do this?	By when
1.		
2.		
3.		

Date shared with the parent/carer:	
Date shared with the child or young person (where appropriate):	
Signatures of Parents/Carers:	
Date of next meeting:	
Signature of Staff:	

REVIEW




DATE:

Actions	Successes
1.	
2.	
3.	

Any further actions	Who will do this?	By when
1.		
2.		
3.		

A copy of the CPA supporting Families is published in its entirety on the CPA's website (www.continuplus.org.uk).

Date Policy Created: September 2023 - reviewed and adapted annually
Member of Staff Responsible: Aimee Wootton (SENCO/DSL)
Review Date: July 2024

Signed:  (Staff member responsible)

Signed:  (Headteacher)

Signed:  (Chair of Governors)