



## **Alderwood Academy Early Help Offer**

### **What is the early help process?**

Early help means providing support as soon as a problem emerges, at any point in a child's life. Providing early help is more effective in promoting the welfare of children than reacting later.

This includes offer advice, identifying emerging problems, liaising with the designated safeguarding lead, sharing information with other professionals to support early identification and assessment and, in some cases, acting as the lead professional in undertaking an early help assessment. All staff are aware of the early help process, and understand their role in it.

### **What support is offered by Alderwood Academy?**

**Mental Health First Aider:** Will Harvey is the trained MHFA in school and has provided training to staff to spot the signs and symptoms of common mental health issues, provide support and reassurance and guide the child or adult to seek the professional support they may require.

**Thrive:** All children at Alderwood have an individualised programme that addresses the child's social and emotional needs.

**Attendance:** Every child's attendance is important to us and as a result we monitor attendance very carefully. If your child's attendance drops below 90% formal attendance meetings are carried out to identify barriers and support. Should attendance not improve we will involve the Educational Welfare Officer in order to improve attendance.

**PSHE and British Citizenship:** Our schools delivers Personal, Social and Health and Economics Education and Relationships and Sex Education (RSE) programmes as well as British Citizenship. We also work with the NSPCC and St Giles Trust to support further with this.

**On-line Safety:** Every child is taught to keep themselves safe online through the curriculum and it is further highlighted as we participate in the National e-safety week.

**Child Sexual Exploitation:** All staff at Alderwood have been trained to identify early indicators of potential cases of sexual exploitation through annual safeguarding training and further online courses.

**Female Genital Mutilation:** All staff have received training on FGM. Staff know how to recognise if a child may be at risk and how to refer following the schools safeguarding procedures.

**Prevent Training:** All staff have been trained through online training and the DSL has received WRAP training. All staff can identify the early stages of radicalisation and what to do.

**SENDIASS** (Special Educational Needs and Disabilities Information Advice and Support Service): is a free confidential and impartial information, advice and support service on issues related to Special Educational Needs and disability. They provide unbiased information and advice about what the law says, the local authority's policies and procedures and about the policy and practice in local schools and other settings.

**School Nursing:** Our school nurse visits site every 4 weeks and is available to meet with parents, support our children and meets with staff.

**Emotional Wellbeing Gateway - Mental Health Services & Support:** Whether you are experiencing mental health issues, are worried about someone you care for, or want to know how to stay mentally well, the Gateway website is the place to go for families and professionals looking for emotional wellbeing information and advice, or to make a referral to access mental health services in Suffolk.

**Call consultation helpline on: 0345 600 2090**

<https://infolink.suffolk.gov.uk/kb5/suffolk/infolink/infolink.page?infolinkchannel=2-1-1>

**Suffolk Local Offer:** Information about support services and local opportunities for children and young people with SEND – find what you need all in one place.

If you need more help contact the Local Offer Advisor on 0345 606 1490

<https://infolink.suffolk.gov.uk/kb5/suffolk/infolink/localoffer.page?localofferchannelnew=0>

**Please do not hesitate in contacting us for advice or signposting.**