

Hospital School Early Help Offer

At the Hospital School we understand that from time to time family life can have its complications, no more so than when your child is admitted to hospital. These may be the times when you need some extra help and support.

To support and advise you at such times we have an Early Help Offer. We can offer advice on a range of concerns or can signpost parents to other sources of information, help and support.

Support

On entry to Hospital – We meet at the child's hospital bedside with parent/carers; we complete an admissions form together and listen to any ongoing concerns; we give the opportunity to discuss concerns and plan for the child's hospital stay; we liaise with the child's Home School and share information as necessary

On exit – we support with transition back to school plans, we offer support completing Individual Health Plans (IHPs) as necessary, and can provide follow-up visits to Home Schools if required/requested; we sometimes refer to other agencies eg social care, Early Help teams; we will, where possible, attend professionals meetings eg Strategy meetings; Multi-Agency meetings; FNM, CIN, Core Groups, Child Protection as appropriate

Some issues we can help with:

A wide range of issues such as behaviour management, financial worries and debts, drugs, online safety, homelessness, your child's mental health, domestic abuse, housing concerns, mobility difficulties, parent in prison, gang culture, bereavement and loss, cyber bullying – in fact any concerns about which you are worried might be having a negative impact on your children.

Some examples of Early Help Support we offer at Ipswich Hospital School

- Our staff are all Mental Health First Aid trained and will be supportive in recognising that mental health concerns may underpin some social, emotional and behavioural issues and will help families to seek appropriate support
- We liaise extensively with the medical teams and Early Help NHS staff to ensure an holistic approach, which includes wellbeing and education
- We monitor educational and physical progress, as well as mental health wellbeing
- We encourage Home school liaison/visits from key staff
- We give 1:1 time with pupils/parents as necessary
- We facilitate Therapeutic Activities - music/art/DT/mindfulness/yoga sessions
- We have a small, nurturing environment
- We have time to listen (a concern box is available for pupils to share their concerns or other means of communication are made available, if they do not feel able to talk)
- Our staff are Drawing and Talking therapy trained

- We design bespoke timetables/lessons with learners to address their wellbeing needs
- We offer 1:1 catch up sessions to address particular needs
- We offer support for Individual Health Plans and arrange meetings which enable all parties and agencies to work together
- We write Individual Learning Plans with a child-centred approach as appropriate
- We make referrals to other professionals eg Early Help; CAF; EHCP; Home School SENCO if necessary