
EARLY HELP OFFER



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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 offering 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.

Some issues we can help with

A wide range of issues such as behaviour management, financial worries and debts, drugs and alcohol, 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.

Information about support services and local opportunities for children and young people with SEND can be found on Suffolk County Council's website

<https://infolink.suffolk.gov.uk/kb5/suffolk/infolink/localoffer.page>

More details about each Raedwald Trust site's early offer can be found below.

First Base Ipswich Academy & First Base Bury St Edmunds Academy

Early Help Intervention	Summary of Intervention
Mental Health First Aiders	Each Raedwald Trust site has trained MHFAs in school who are trained to spot the signs and symptoms of common mental health issues, provide support and reassurance and guide the pupil to seek the professional support they may require.
Thrive	Thrive is used throughout the setting as a key ethos and also for Thrive intervention sessions with each child.
Welfare Assistance	<p>Welfare assistance and support is available via the Raedwald Trust. Examples include</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Food parcels • RT Hardship Fund • Rope’s Trust - a locally based grant-making charity who makes grants to individuals living in Ipswich and south-east Suffolk • FIND - a locally based charity who are able to assist furniture and other household items. • Food vouchers for pupils receiving Free School Meals. <p>LWAS -Suffolk Local Welfare Assistance – applications can be made via Suffolk County Council SCC Cost of Living webpages.</p>
Multi agency working & referrals to other services	Staff attend multi agency meetings to support pupils and families and to help ensure actions are implemented. Referrals to other services include - school nursing, social care, early help team and completion of CAF’s.
Settling, breakfast, lunch	When pupils arrive in the morning they engage in a settling activity to support a positive start to the day. Breakfast and lunchtimes are supported by staff to model table conversation, cutlery use and manners.
Free flow sessions and playtimes	Play is timetabled into the day and is highly supported and modelled by adults to develop positive relationships and interactions between pupils.
Storytime	Specific texts are shared with pupils during storytime which cover; world issues, celebrations and festivals, significant individuals, stories from other cultures, PSHE, traditional tales, current authors and heritage texts. This is planned to raise cultural capital for our pupils.
Nurture provision	First Base provides a nurturing environment where children feel safe and supported by all staff.
Personalised planning	During induction mainstream settings provide a baseline assessment for the pupil. This enables First Base to plan personally for each child based on their own needs and individual starting points.

Experiential curriculum	The curriculum is specifically designed to enable pupils to access frequent trips, visitors and experiences which engage them in learning.
Curriculum based on fundamental key skills	Our dual-placement curriculum is deliberately planned to focus on pupils gaining fundamental key skills and knowledge.
Character education	The curriculum design has been highly influenced by Character Education and includes numerous opportunities for creative and performance projects, sport, world of work experiences and fundraising opportunities. This supports in developing our pupil's characters and attributes such as resilience, independence, curiosity.
PSED focus and tracking	First Base place a spotlight on high quality support for personal, social and emotional development. This is regularly tracked and monitored to enable maximum impact.
Core values	Our core values of kindness, curiosity, resilience and reflection underpin our school ethos. Pupils are encouraged to show these values and they are celebrated.
Communication with parents	First Base communicate regularly with parents through weekly phone calls, daily home/school book, weekly meetings, parent share afternoons, parent workshops, termly review meetings, induction and exit meetings and support at multi-agency meetings.
Parent Share sessions	First Base hold termly Share sessions where parents can engage in learning activities alongside their child. This supports parental involvement in learning and engagement with their child.
Parent workshops	We offer regular parent workshops to support parent knowledge around academic subjects and keeping their children safe.
Careers pathway	First Base have a careers pathway which aims to inspire our pupils to be aspirational in thinking about their futures.

Alderwood Academy

Early Help Intervention	Summary of Intervention
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Free flow sessions and playtimes	Play is timetabled into the day and is highly supported and modelled by adults to develop positive relationships and interactions between pupils.
Experiential curriculum	The curriculum is specifically designed to enable pupils to access frequent trips, visitors and experiences which engage them in learning.
PSHE and British Citizenship	Our schools deliver Personal, Social and Health and Economics Education and Relationships and Sex Education (RSE) programmes as well as British Citizenship as part of our curriculum.
School Nursing	The school nurse visits regularly and is available to support pupils and meet with parents.

Communication with parents	Staff communicate regularly with parents through weekly phone calls, daily home/school book, weekly meetings, parent share afternoons, parent workshops, termly review meetings, induction and exit meetings and support at multi-agency meetings.
Screening	Staff trained in Irlens and Dyslexia screening.

Parkside Academy, St Christopher’s Academy, The Albany Academy & Westbridge Academy

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Screening	Staff trained in Irlens and Dyslexia screening.
Drawing & Talking	Staff Drawing & Talking therapy trained.

Ipswich Hospital School & West Suffolk Hospital School

Early Help Intervention	Summary of Intervention
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Medical Team Liaison	Our staff liaise extensively with the medical teams and Early Help NHS staff to ensure an holistic approach, which includes wellbeing and education .
Home School Liaison	We encourage Home school liaison/visits from key staff.
Nurture Provision	We have a small, nurturing environment.
Individual Health Care Plans	We offer support for Individual Health Plans and arrange meetings which enable all parties and agencies to work together. We also write Individual Learning Plans with a child-centred approach as appropriate.
1:1	We give 1:1 time with pupils/parents as necessary and offer 1:1 catch up sessions to address particular needs.
Therapeutic Activities	We facilitate Therapeutic Activities – music, art, DT, mindfulness, yoga sessions.
Communication	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).
Screening	Staff trained in Irlens and Dyslexia screening.

Drawing & Talking

Staff Drawing & Talking therapy trained.
