



# Early Help Offer

## October 2023

<b>Summary</b>	This document details the school's approach to Early Help through the threshold document and analysis of the level of needs of identified children.		
<b>Originator</b>	Headteacher	<b>Date:</b>	
<b>Responsible Governor</b>	Marie Fidler	<b>Responsible Committee</b>	Resources
<b>Approved By:</b>		<b>Minute Number</b>	
<b>Date:</b>			
<b>Review Date:</b>		<b>Implementation Date:</b>	
Document History			
<b>Date</b>	October 2024	<b>Change</b>	Change of DSL staff names

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## Statement of Intent

Spire Junior School is committed to supporting all children, young people and families to be safe and healthy. To do this, we introduced an Early Help Service that has a defined intent, implementation strategy and review of impact that informs continual adjustments to meet the needs of all children and young people who attend our school and their families. Through targeted support, we will ensure children, young people and their families make considered decisions in line with the school's values.

Through inter-agency working we aim to ensure all children, young people and families are able to, regardless of any disadvantages they may face, build the knowledge, skills, resilience and independence to lead safe and healthy lives.

To deliver an effective Early Help Service, we operate in accordance with the *Children and Families Act (2014)* and *Working Together to Safeguard Children (2018)* statutory guidance.

Spire Junior School Early Help Service aims to:

- Identify children and their families who would benefit from Early Help Services by using Derby and Derbyshire thresholds.
- Undertake an assessment of the need for Early Help using the Derby and Derbyshire approved Early Help Assessment guidance.
- Provide targeted Early Help Services to address the assessed needs of a child and their family which focuses on activity to improve the outcomes for the child.
- Share Early Help Service information proactively and effectively meeting the need to promote the welfare and protect the safety of children in line with General Data Protection Regulation (GDPR) and *Data Protection Act (2018)* principles.

Our Early Help Service is underpinned by statutory information and guidance issued by Derby and Derbyshire Safeguarding Children Partnership.

All teaching and non-teaching staff are expected to deliver a solid foundation of support on which our Early Help Service is delivered and includes:

- accessible curriculums and pastoral systems
- quality first teaching
- build positive and informed relationships
- engage in collaborative ways of working with children, young people and families.

The impact of our Early Help Service is reviewed and shared on a weekly basis to Senior Leaders and termly to the

Governing Body. Our Early Help Service features as an annual staff INSET item to ensure all staff understand the intent, implementation and impact of the service and contribution they make to its delivery.

## Strategic Early Help Team

<b>Role</b>	<b>Member</b>	<b>Summary of responsibilities</b>
Governor	Mrs M Fidler	Accountability and Impact
Strategic Lead	Mrs Charlotte Vernon	Headteacher, Deputy Safeguarding Lead School Tel: 01246 234546
SENDCO	Miss Leah Sharman	SENDCO, Class Teacher, Designated Safeguarding Lead
Pastoral Manager, Strategic Lead / Early Help Officer	Mrs Gail Hancock	Pastoral Manager, Designated Safeguarding Lead (DSL) Designated Senior Lead and contact for Starting Point School Tel: 01246 234546 School mobile 07958064267
Strategic Lead / Early Help Officer	Mrs Joanne Boulton	Learning Mentor / Family Support Worker / Designated Safeguarding Lead Attendance Lead School mobile 07871722612 School Tel: 01246 273458
Assistant Head	Miss Annabelle Thompson	Headteacher, Deputy Safeguarding Lead School Tel: 01246 234546

## Identification and assessment of the needs of children and families area

Our Early Help Service uses the Derby and Derbyshire Safeguarding Children Partnership approved Early Help Assessment Tool to assess the needs of all children, young people and families. Through inter-agency working, that proactively builds relationships and communications protocols with schools and external agencies, we aim to ensure all children, young people and families are able to, regardless of any disadvantages they may face, build the knowledge, skills, resilience and independence to lead safe and healthy lives.

The **Early Help Strategic Team** meets half termly and more if required to triage new cases and review current ones.

The identification of need may be categorised as one of the following four thresholds:

Category of need	Lead Person(s)	Actions
<b>Universal</b>	Early Help and Safeguarding Managers Gail Hancock and Joanne Boulton	Spire Junior Early Help Wave 1 Low Level
↓		
<b>Emerging need</b>		Spire Junior Early Help Wave 2 Emerging Support
↓	Early Help Officer and Safeguarding Manager: Gail Hancock and Joanne Boulton	Submit Starting Point referral Call Derbyshire
<b>Intensive</b>	Starting Point	Spire Junior Early Help Assessment Team Around Family (TAF) Graded Care Profile DCC Early Help Team deployed
↓		
<b>Specialist</b>	Social Services	Single Assessment Child in Need Child Protection Looked After Child

Further information about each threshold can be found in **Appendix 1: Derby City and Derbyshire Threshold Document – Threshold table.**

## Summary of Early Help Services

Following the identification of children, young people and their families who would benefit from Early Help Services, targeted support is then allocated to meet the needs identified. Our Early Help Service is structured to offer three categories of support:

- Routines for Learning**
- Health and Wellbeing**
- Support Services**

Each of the above categories contains a number of support services that can be accessed by the child, young person and family. Safeguarding support is in place for all three categories.

## Spire Junior School Early Help Service

### Summary of Early Help Services

Routines for Learning	Health and Wellbeing	Support Services
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>1. Attendance</li><li>2. Self-discipline</li><li>3. Communication</li><li>4. Curriculum Provision</li><li>5. SEND support</li><li>6. Transition</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>7. Social</li><li>8. Emotional</li><li>9. Mental</li><li>10. Sexual</li><li>11. Physical</li><li>12. Substance Abuse</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>13. Parenting</li><li>14. Financial</li><li>15. Homelessness</li><li>16. Separation</li><li>17. Domestic Abuse</li><li>18. Bereavement</li><li>19. Relationships</li><li>20. Looked After Children</li><li>21. Radicalisation and Extremism</li></ul>

← **Overarching Safeguarding Support** →

## Services that a child, young person and/or family may access

Routines for Learning intervention summary	Health and Wellbeing intervention summary	External Environment intervention summary
<p><b>1. Attendance</b></p> <p>1.1 Daily Phone calls 1.2 Attendance Panel 1.3 Prosecution 1.4 Attendance Support graduated response 1.5 School Nurse</p> <p><b>2. Self-discipline</b></p> <p>2.1 Parental meeting 2.2 Homework club 2.3 DCC Behaviour Support 2.4 TAPS 2.5 Police Community Support Officer</p> <p><b>3. Cognition</b></p> <p>3.1 Educational Psychologist 3.2 Booster group- Literacy 3.3 Booster group- Numeracy 3.4 Reading Age Test 3.5 Dyslexia Test</p> <p><b>4. Communication</b></p> <p>4.1 Speech and Language therapy</p> <p><b>5. Curriculum Provision</b></p> <p>5.1 Intervention groups English 5.2 Intervention groups-maths 5.3 Extra-Curricular Provision 5.4 Modified Timetable 5.5 Part-time Timetable 5.6 KS2 support centre</p> <p><b>6. SEND</b></p> <p>6.1 GRIP 6.2 Education Health Care Needs Assessment/EHCP 6.3 Teaching Assistant Support 6.4 SSEN support 6.5 Autism Outreach</p> <p><b>7. Transition</b></p> <p>7.1 Extra Transition Support</p>	<p><b>8. Social</b></p> <p>8.3 Extra-Curricular Provision 8.4 Community activities</p> <p><b>9. Emotional</b></p> <p>9.1 Drawing and Talking Therapy 9.2 School Nurse 9.3 Art Therapy 9.4 Nurture Group 9.5 Barrow Hill Support Centre 9.6 Lego Therapy 9.7 ELSA</p> <p><b>10. Mental</b></p> <p>10.1 School Nurse 10.2 Educational Psychologist 10.4 Core CAMHS 10.5 CAMHS Specialist Community Advisor 10.6 CAMHS Urgent Care Team 10.7 Action for Children B.S.M.</p> <p><b>11. Sexual</b></p> <p>11.1 School Nurse 11.2 Sexual Violence (SV2) 11.3 Call Derbyshire 11.4 NSPCC programmes</p> <p><b>12. Physical</b></p> <p>12.1 School Nurse 12.3 Accessibility Plan 12.5 Healthy eating 12.6 Extra-curricular sports</p> <p><b>13. Substance Abuse</b></p> <p>13.2 School Nurse 13.3 Starting Point</p>	<p><b>14. Parenting</b></p> <p>14.1 Parenting Support 14.2 DIASS 14.3 Local Offer signposting 14.4 Positive Parenting 14.5 Parents' Evening 14.6 Police Community Support Officer 14.7 Team Around the Family (TAF)</p> <p><b>15. Financial</b></p> <p>15.1 Citizens Advice Bureau 15.2 Food Bank 15.3 Disadvantaged funding 15.4 Uniform</p> <p><b>16. Homelessness</b></p> <p>16.1 Citizens Advice Bureau 16.2 Chesterfield Housing 16.3 Starting Point referral</p> <p><b>17. Separation</b></p> <p>17.1 Spire Junior Pastoral Team</p> <p><b>18. Domestic Violence</b></p> <p>18.1 Spire Junior Pastoral Team 18.2 Elm Foundation 18.3 Women's Refuge 18.4 Starting Point referral</p> <p><b>19. Bereavement</b></p> <p>19.1 ELSA 19.2 Spire Junior Pastoral Team</p> <p><b>20. Relationships</b></p> <p>20.1 Spire Junior Pastoral Team 20.2 Extra-Curricular Provision</p> <p><b>21. Looked After Children</b></p> <p>21.1 Virtual School 21.2 Social Care 21.3 Disadvantaged funding</p> <p><b>22. Radicalisation and Extremism</b></p> <p>22.1 PREVENT referral 22.2 Extra-Curricular Provision 22.3 Police Community Support Officer</p>
<p style="text-align: center;"><b>← Safeguarding →</b></p> <p style="text-align: center;"> <input type="checkbox"/> Risk Assessment                      <input type="checkbox"/> CRSE Toolkit  <input type="checkbox"/> Call Derbyshire  <input type="checkbox"/> Starting Point         </p>		

## Sharing of Information

In order to meet the need to promote the welfare and protect the safety of children in line with General Data Protection Regulation (GDPR) and Data Protection Act (2018) principles, Spire Junior School is committed to sharing Early Help Service information proactively and effectively. We are committed to implementing rigorous recording, storage and information sharing protocols and accept that failure to do so can contribute to ineffective safeguarding of children and young people.

## Accessing Early Help

Should children, young people and/or families need to access our Early Help Service or have any questions they should contact:

Strategic Lead / Early Help Officer	Mrs Gail Hancock	Pastoral Manager, Designated Safeguarding Lead (DSL) <b>Designated Senior Lead and contact for Starting Point</b> School Tel: 01246 234546
Strategic Lead / Early Help Officer	Mrs Joanne Boulton	Learning Mentor School Tel: 01246 273458
Headteacher	Mrs Charlotte Vernon	Headteacher, Designated Safeguarding Lead.

## Appendix 1: Derby City and Derbyshire Threshold Document – Threshold table.

This table is intended to give an indication of thresholds through examples. It is NOT a definitive list and a professional judgement informed by relevant assessment must be applied when deciding the level of intervention when and where to refer.

Levels and Referral Routes	Needs	Suggested Services	Outcome
<p><b>Level 1 Universal</b> <b>Open access to provision</b></p>	<p>Unborn babies/ children/young people and families who live in the area have core needs such as parenting, health and education and may need help to access services.</p> <p>Low level concerns regarding radicalisation/ extremism and channel processes identify support via universal services.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Early years</li> <li>• Education providers</li> <li>• Primary health care, GPs, health visitors, school nurses, maternity services</li> <li>• Housing</li> <li>• Community health care</li> <li>• Community and children’s centres</li> <li>• Leisure services</li> </ul> <p>Children are supported by their family and in universal services to meet all of their needs.</p>	<p>Unborn babies, children and young people make good progress in most areas of development.</p>
<p><b>Level 2 Emerging Needs</b></p> <p>Co-ordinated support from more than one agency needed to meet unborn baby/child and family needs.</p> <p>The assessment and support is co-ordinated by a service and/ or people who know the child/ family best.</p> <p>The Early Hel process is used with an assessment, and a clear plan for review to ensure that the help on offer is making a difference.</p>	<p>Unborn babies/ children/young people and families with additional needs who would benefit from or who require extra co-ordinated help to improve education (including home education or any other specialist education provision), parenting and/or behaviour, or to meet specific health, development or emotional needs or to improve their material situation.</p> <p>This will identify children at low risk of exploitation e.g. sexual, financial, emotional and criminal.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>•Parenting support</li> <li>•Support for families with disabled children, with consideration of siblings needs</li> <li>•Family Nurse Partnership</li> <li>•Extra health support for family members via GP, voluntary sector</li> <li>•Behavioural support</li> <li>•Early Help offer to schools for targeted group work and educational programmes</li> <li>•Housing/ tenancy support</li> </ul>	<p>The life chances of unborn babies, children, young people and families will be improved by offering additional co-ordinated support preventing an escalation to statutory services.</p>



<p>This would be co-ordinated and managed by a Lead Practitioner from one of the agencies providing support i.e. early years, schools, health or community/ voluntary sector.</p>	<p>Concerns about extremism/ radicalisation where Channel processes identify there are additional support needs.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Additional learning support</li> <li>• CAMHS tier 2 support to schools</li> <li>• Derbyshire Fire and rescue service input i.e. safe and well check</li> <li>• SEN support and help to find education and employment</li> <li>• Speech and language therapy</li> <li>• Children's centres and targeted youth work</li> <li>• Services provided on a voluntary basis to families (these may be offered by volunteers and/or commissioned through a voluntary organisation)</li> <li>• Adult and young peoples' substance misuse services</li> <li>• Young carers</li> </ul>	
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**Level 3 Intensive**

Access requires the completion of an online referral form and /or the completion of an early help assessment to local authority children's services.

An Early Help or Social Care Single Assessment would be completed with the family and a child's plan would be developed if required following the assessment.

The Lead Practitioner will usually be from Local Authority Children's Services via Early Help Teams, Multi Agency Teams or Social Care.

Unborn babies, children, young people and their families with multiple needs or whose needs are more complex, such as children and families who:

- Have a disability resulting in complex needs
- Exhibit anti-social or challenging behaviour, including the expression of radicalised thoughts or intentions.
- Where there are concerns about radicalisation or extremism with concerning additional features and risk is increased due to additional vulnerability (alongside Channel processes)
- Have experienced neglect or poor family relationships
- Have poor engagement with key services such as school and health
- Are not in education or work long term
- This will include children at medium risk of exploitation e.g., sexual, financial, emotional and criminal.

Due to the complexity of needs, especially around behaviour and parenting, a shared multi-agency assessment and co-ordinated plan is developed with the family.

The assessment and plan is usually led by the lead practitioner from Children's Services. The service is provided ONLY with the consent of the parents/ carers.

A wide range of services might be involved in meeting the child and family's needs, e.g. CAMHS, adult mental health, adult or young peoples' drug/alcohol team, domestic abuse services or local authority disabled children's service.

The life chances of unborn babies, children, young people will be significantly impaired without co-ordinated multi-agency support.

<p><b>Level 4 Specialist</b></p> <p>Access is mainly via completion of an online referral form, unless immediate Child Protection concerns when a telephone referral should be made.</p>	<p>Unborn babies, children and young people who have suffered or are likely to suffer significant harm as a result of abuse or neglect.</p> <p>This will include children at medium to high risk of exploitation e.g. sexual, financial, emotional and criminal.</p> <p>Also: Those at risk of</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• female genital mutilation (FGM), honour based violence and forced marriage</li> <li>• impairment of function /learning and/ or life limiting illness</li> <li>• Children whose parents and wider family are unable to care for them</li> <li>• Families involved in crime/misuse of drugs and/or alcohol/ domestic abuse at a significant level</li> <li>• Families with significant mental or physical health needs</li> <li>• Children whose care is significantly affected by parental involvement in terrorist ideology or activities where the child is likely to suffer harm by their own involvement in extremism</li> </ul>	<p>Children's social care</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Youth offending service</li> <li>• Criminal justice system</li> <li>• CAMHS tier 3 and 4</li> <li>• In-patient and continuing health care for a child or parent</li> <li>• Drug and alcohol services for adults and young people</li> <li>• Fostering and residential care</li> <li>• Health care for children with life limiting illness</li> <li>• Services for children with profound and enduring disability</li> <li>• Referrals have to be made to services with the power to undertake statutory voluntary or non-voluntary intervention and services with specialist skills</li> </ul>	<p>Unborn babies /children/ young people whose development would be significantly impaired if services are not provided.</p> <p>Unborn babies /children/ young people are likely to suffer significant harm/removal from home/ serious and lasting impairment without the intervention of specialist services, very often using their statutory powers</p>
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