

☀️ Early Help Offer

Newhall Infant and Nursery School

☎️ 01283 216496

✉️ enquiries@newhallinfants.co.uk

Out of Hours (4pm – 8am Monday – Friday, all year round)

Starting Point Emergency: ☎️ 01629 553190

Police: ☎️ 101 / 999



💛 Our Approach to Early Help

At Newhall Infant and Nursery School, our primary aim is to identify needs as early as possible and ensure the right support is put in place.

All staff recognise their responsibility for safeguarding and promoting the welfare of every child throughout the school day. We believe that effective information sharing and timely support can help ensure that all children and families get the best possible start.

We understand that families may need support from a range of services. Our role is to work in partnership with families and, where appropriate, signpost or refer to external agencies who can provide specialist support.

✅ Our Key Responsibilities

We will:

- Identify children and families who may benefit from Early Help, using the Derby and Derbyshire Safeguarding Children Partnership (DDSCP) thresholds
- Undertake an Early Help Assessment (EHA) where appropriate
- Provide or coordinate targeted support to improve outcomes for children
- Use evidence-based interventions (as recommended by the Early Intervention Foundation)
- Share information appropriately, with regard to confidentiality and the child's welfare

We work in line with:

- The Children Act 2004
- Working Together to Safeguard Children (2018)
- Keeping Children Safe in Education

Support We Offer in School

As part of our Early Help provision, we offer a range of support within school to meet children's emotional, social and developmental needs:

Emotional Wellbeing Support

- **Nurture Group Provision** – providing a safe, supportive environment to develop confidence, social skills and emotional regulation
- **Positive Play Sessions** – helping children develop positive behaviours, relationships and resilience through structured play

Learning & Development Support

- Targeted interventions to support learning progress
- SEND support tailored to individual needs

Support for Families

- Meetings with parents/carers to discuss concerns
- Guidance and advice on supporting children at home
- Signposting to additional services where needed

How We Identify When Early Help is Needed

Staff have regular contact with children and families and are well placed to identify when support may be needed.

Concerns may arise through:

- Changes in a child's behaviour or wellbeing
- Attendance or punctuality concerns
- Family circumstances
- Information shared by parents or external agencies

All school staff understand their role in identifying vulnerable children and families.

- Safeguarding concerns reported to school are recorded on MyConcern
- The Designated Safeguarding Lead (DSL) reviews all concerns
- A secure chronology of concerns is maintained
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Where appropriate, the DSL and pastoral team will assess whether an Early Help Assessment is required.

The Early Help Team meets monthly to:

- Review concerns
- Monitor attendance and behaviour
- Identify families needing support

The Early Help Process

Our process is designed to be supportive, transparent and collaborative:

1. **Identification of need**
 - Identified by school, parents, or external agencies
2. **Discussion with parents/carers**
 - School works in partnership with families
3. **Assessment of need**
 - May include an Early Help Assessment (EHA)
4. **Support and signposting**
 - Access to appropriate services and support
5. **Multi-agency working**
 - Professionals work together to meet identified needs
6. **Delivery of support**
 - Targeted interventions provided
7. **Review and monitoring**
 - Progress tracked and support adjusted
8. **Ongoing communication**
 - Regular updates shared with parents
9. **Escalation if required**
 - Further support accessed if needs increase
10. **Complaints process available**
 - Families can raise concerns if needed

Working Together with Families

We value strong relationships with parents and carers. We aim to:

- Listen and respond to concerns early
- Work in partnership to agree support
- Provide guidance and reassurance
- Ensure families feel supported at all times

 *No concern is too small – we are here to help.*

Working with Other Services

Where needed, we will work with or refer to external agencies, such as:

- Early Help services
- Health professionals
- Educational Psychology
- Social Care
- Community and family support services

Safeguarding

Early Help is part of our wider safeguarding responsibility.

If concerns about a child's safety increase, we will follow safeguarding procedures and may refer to Starting Point or other relevant services.

Accessing Support

If you feel your child or family may need support, please:

- Speak to your child's class teacher
- Contact the school office
- Request a meeting with a member of our pastoral or safeguarding team

Meet the Team

- Designated Safeguarding Lead: Mrs Shelley White
- SENCo: Mrs Penny Pooley
- Early Help: Miss Claire Butler
- Pastoral Support: Mrs Jeni Skinner
- Pastoral Support: Mrs Leanne Squire