

## Early Help at Withington Primary School and Preschool Playgroup

At Withington we realise that providing “Early Help” is more effective in promoting the welfare of children than reacting later. “Early Help” means providing support as soon as a problem emerges, at any point in a child's life, from the foundation years through to the teenage years. ( ref - Working Together to Safeguard Children March 2013)

Early Help at Withington is offered through -

- Small classes which mean that each child and family are well known to all staff.
- Children are confident to speak to any adult in school if they have a concern.
- All pre-school children have an identified key-worker.
- Open door policy where staff and governors are available for parents to discuss issues as soon as they arise.
- Daily handovers of children ensure good relationships with families and opportunities to discuss issues as they arise.
- Good links exist with external agencies including CAMHS, Police, other local schools, the church and GSCB.
- PSHE lessons include sessions on who to talk to if children have a problem or a worry.
- Information available through office on support for victims of domestic abuse.
- Head teacher and governor with safeguarding responsibility are registered to receive e-alerts from GSCB.
- Community social worker is available for support.
- School are able to signpost to various forms of additional financial support.
- Second hand uniform and clothing available.
- All children entering school are encouraged to complete FSM form to ensure support in place as early as possible.
- Parenting support information books available to borrow.
- One of the governors is an accredited Positive Parenting Facilitator.
- The 2 DSLs and the named governor attend 2 yearly update training with GSCB.
- All staff receive safeguarding training at least every 3 years.
- Where there is a concern about a child or family, we always record and where appropriate refer to GSCB.
- Where a child is known to be witnessing domestic abuse we refer to GSCB as we are aware of the serious impact this can have on a child's welfare.
- Good links exist with all local secondary schools and records and ongoing concerns are shared at the earliest opportunity.
- A Child Sexual Exploitation screening tool is available if needed.