

Church Drive's Mental Health and Wellbeing Offer

At Church Drive Primary School, we are committed to supporting the emotional health and wellbeing of our pupils and staff. We know that everyone experiences life challenges that can make us vulnerable and at times, anyone may need additional emotional support. We take the view that positive mental health is everybody's business and that we all have a role to play.

For our Mental Health & Wellbeing Policy, please click on the link:

At our school, we promote a mentally healthy environment through:

- Promoting our school values and encouraging a sense of belonging
- Promoting pupil voice and opportunities to participate in decision-making
- Celebrating academic and non-academic achievements in order to promote self-esteem
- Providing opportunities to develop a sense of worth through taking responsibility for themselves and others
- Providing opportunities to reflect
- Access to appropriate support that meets their needs
- Helping children to understand their emotions and feelings better and to feel comfortable sharing any concerns or worries
- Helping children to develop emotional resilience and to manage setbacks
- sharing any concerns or worries
- Helping children to develop emotional resilience and to manage setbacks

Wellbeing Newsletters:

With our Well-being team we produce a half-termly up-date newsletter to celebrate events and achievements of individuals.

We offer different levels of support:

Universal Support - To meet the needs of all our pupils through our overall ethos and our wider curriculum. For instance, developing resilience for all.

Additional support - For those who may have short term needs and those who may have been made vulnerable by life experiences such as bereavement.

Targeted support - For pupils who need more differentiated support and resources or specific targeted interventions such as wellbeing groups or personal mentors.

Lead staff members to contact if you are concerned about your child's mental health: Mrs Wood (SENDCO), Mrs Jones (Headteacher) and Miss Cross (PSHE and Wellbeing Lead)

What do we currently do for mental health and wellbeing for our pupils and staff?

- We have a designated Mental Health and Well Being Lead in school that is responsible for promoting wellbeing for our staff and pupils (Miss Cross).
- We have a designated trained ELSA (Emotional Literacy Support Assistant) , Miss Hodson, who delivers nurture groups for pupils, such as small group 'time to talk' social skills work, resilience skills, 'it's good to be me' groups and 1:1 check in with pupils in liaison with our SENDCos (Special Needs & Disabilities Co-Ordinator)
- We have a Well-being Team made up of the following staff: Miss Cross, Mrs Wood, Mr Thomason, Miss Callis, Mrs Ellis and Mrs Foddy
- In each class we have worry boxes for pupils to share their worries with a safe adult.
- We have nominated school council members in each class to represent their peers and gain feedback in class assemblies.
- We hold extra half-termly meetings for pupils who need more regular meetings to support their needs.
- We have parents' SENDCO forum meetings for parents to attend and share their concerns and worries.
- We have home/school communication books for pupil's who require more regular updates.
- We have move up days, extra transition sessions and meet the teacher sessions for when a pupil is finding a class move difficult.
- We have an allocated buddy for all new pupils.
- We have a lunchtime drop ins for pupils to be able to chat/share their worries with an adult.
- We have Key Stage 2 children as play-leaders/sports coaches to support younger children in positive play.
- We have a range of physical lunchtime clubs and quieter lunchtime clubs to promote mental health and wellbeing and support for pupils who find busy lunchtimes stressful.

- We have mental health and wellbeing trained staff in order to support pupils with their needs.
- We have positive behaviour systems in place to promote positive social behaviour.
- We have mental health and wellbeing assemblies to promote resilience and self-management.
- We have a PSHE curriculum that helps pupils to build important life skills, such as learning to learn, habits of mind and the growth mindset.
- Our ethos is to promote supporting the development of skills and character traits such as perseverance, compassion and teamwork.
- We have a Mental Health and Wellbeing Policy for our school, which is regularly updated.
- We have a Staff Well-being Charter.
- We include World Mental Health Day and Mental Health Awareness Week in the school calendar and plan activities for the whole school.
- We incorporate the NHS Five Steps to support well-being, which are: Connect, Be Active, Take Notice, Keep Learning and Give.

Positive Experiences

Church Drive offers pupils many opportunities to do physical activities as well as opportunities to relax which both are ways to promote wellbeing and positive mental health.

- Lunch games to play outside during 'Happy Lunchtimes'
- Active Learning
- Relaxed Kids Nurture Group
- Home Learning Projects
- Themed Days
- Residential visits
- Educational day visits
- Before and after school clubs
- Extra-curricular clubs such as yoga and mindfulness

Celebrating Success

We like to celebrate our many successes together by:

- Posting achievements to celebrate what is taking place

- Displaying pupil's work
- Achievement Award Assembly each week
- Photos of achievements on our Weekly School Newsletter
- Mrs Jones' 'Hot Chocolate Friday'
- 'Top Table' lunchtime treat for pupils nominated by their class teacher
- Class Assemblies
- School newsletters
- Certificates and House points

Curriculums

The school follows the DfE guidelines for the teaching of Mental Health and Wellbeing in the following ways:

- Personal, Social, Health Education (PSHE) scheme of work
- Active Learning
- Assemblies and theme days

Interventions to support Mental Health and Wellbeing

Staff coordinate interventions for pupils mental health and wellbeing such as:

- Talking Therapy
- Counselling
- Mentoring
- Self-esteem individual and group activities
- There's a Volcano in my Tummy anger therapy
- Bereavement Counselling
- Lego therapy
- Relaxed Kids Nurture Sessions
- Starving the Anxiety Gremlin nurture group

Mental Health Support Teams

We are currently living through extremely challenging times, and now perhaps more

than ever, looking after our mental health and well-being is of paramount importance to us all.

What do I do if I am worried about my child's mental health or wellbeing?

You can:

- Go to your GP as a first port of call as they are a useful place to gain medical support and signposting of local services, or speak to a School Nurse. Referrals for the School Nurse service can be made both through your GP and through school.
- Talk to your child's class teacher or teaching assistant about your child's needs or your concerns.
- Talk to the school's SENDCO (Mrs Wood) or Designated Mental Health and Wellbeing lead (Miss Cross).
- Young Minds - The Parents Helpline is available to offer advice to anyone worried about a child or young person under 25. You may have questions about a child's behaviour, emotional well-being, or mental health condition. You may have a child who's already been admitted to CAMHS and have questions about their treatment or want to know what to say to your GP when you visit them. Call 0808 802 5544 or visit the website.
- Early Help – children and family well-being service. Parents can make a referral for support from a Well-being Practitioner via the Wirral County Council. Don't be put off by the page title relating to abuse and neglect – safeguarding encompasses a lot more than just child protection.

Refer to Early Help via school or the Wirral Safeguarding Children's Partnership on the following link:

<https://www.wirral safeguarding.co.uk/professionals/what-is-early-help/#:~:text=Report%20a%20child%20at%20risk,an%20emergency%20always%20dial%20999.>

The Early Help team have developed a Family toolbox website for families and professionals. The website lets you search for services which might be able to help and includes tools you can try, people who can help, and places you can go. The toolbox prevents the need for complicated referrals and puts you in charge of accessing the support you need.

Early Help can signpost families to Wellbeing Practitioners who can work with children and young people (CYP) experiencing any of the following.

- Low mood
- Worry
- Generalized anxiety & social anxiety
- Panic
- Sleep problems due to anxiety/low-mood
- Simple phobias (excluding blood, needles and vomit)
- Stress management

For information and resources re: understanding and improving mental health and well-being, contact MIND. Tel: 0300 123 3393  <https://www.mind.org.uk/>

NHS Resources

Here are a few simple ways you can encourage your child to express themselves. Could you build on existing interests or passions? Think about what has helped them get through the past year. A love of dancing? Baking? Drawing? Fashion? Encourage your child by

 <https://www.nhs.uk/oneyou/every-mind-matters/>- A public health England and NHS site to help people take simple steps to look after their mental health, improve their mental wellbeing and support others.

NHS mental health booklet – the Little Blue Book of Sunshine:  [Little Blue Book of Sunshine 2020.pdf](#).

The book offers lots of practical and useful advice and aims to help children and young people by sharing tips on how to deal with problems, such as anxiety, stress, relationships and anger. It also includes information about where to get help when they need it.

Useful links

Some useful resources that you could use at home to support your child's mental health are below:

Advice for parents and carers: talking mental health with young people at primary school

This leaflet which was created alongside the [Talking Mental Health Animation & Toolkit](#), features an introduction from our Patron, Her Royal Highness The Duchess of Cambridge who supported the *You're never too young to talk* mental health

campaign stating the campaign's resources "demonstrate how we can help children express their feelings, respond appropriately, and prevent small problems from snowballing into bigger ones."



[tmh-parent-leaflet-final-web-updated-by-ed-april-2020.pdf \(annafreud.org\)](#)

Dealing with anxiety -  <https://tutorful.co.uk/guides/the-expert-guide-to-help-your-child-with-anxiety>

Young minds parents' survival guide -  <https://youngminds.org.uk/find-help/for-parents/parents-survival-guide/>

Anna Freud National Centre for Children and Families

-  <https://www.annafreud.org/parents/>

 <https://www.familylives.org.uk/how-we-can-help/confidential-helpline/>

Useful Booklets/Publications:

-  [Public Health England How Healthy Behaviour Supports Children's Wellbeing](#)
-  [Mental Health Parent Leaflet Anna Freud Centre](#)
-  [Wellbeing Booklist](#)
-  [The Anxious Child Booklet for Parents](#)
-  [Worry Doll Instructions](#)
-  [You need to know guide for parents](#)
-  [10 key areas to happier living poster](#)
-  [Relaxation tips for bedtime](#)
-  [Sleep and Diet Parent Leaflet](#)
-  [Bedtime routine for Parents](#)
-  [Mindfulness Booklet A brief guide](#)
-  [Bereavement Resources](#)
-  [Schools Information Pack - Bereavement](#)

Young Minds Publications offers information on a variety of mental health issues from school problems to mental illness in families.

 <https://youngminds.org.uk/shop/publications/>

Young Minds Parents Guide To Support A-Z gives you advice on how to help your child with specific mental health conditions, and life events which might be negatively affecting their wellbeing. They also show you where you can get help:

 <https://youngminds.org.uk/find-help/for-parents/parents-guide-to-support-a-z/>

 <https://www.mentallyhealthyschools.org.uk/> - Quality-assured information, advice and resources to help primary schools understand and promote children's mental health and wellbeing.

Feelings tracker:  [Tracking My Feelings.pdf](#)

Anxiety thermometer:  [Anxiety Thermometer.pdf](#)

Mindfulness calendar:  [Mindfulness Calendar Daily 5 Minute Activities.pdf](#)

Parent's Guide to Childhood Anxiety - Knowing the symptoms, how to talk to and support your child with anxiety:  <https://tutorful.co.uk/guides/the-expert-guide-to-help-your-child-with-anxiety>

 <https://www.healthforkids.co.uk/grownups/healthy-minds/>

Supporting pupils' emotional wellbeing and mental health, so that they can be listened to, are happy together and ready to learn is vitally important to us. Therefore, if you have any questions or concerns, please do not hesitate to contact us.

CAMHS

CAMHS stands for Child and Adolescent Mental Health Services. CAMHS is the name for the NHS services that assess and treat young people with emotional, behavioural or mental health difficulties.

For more information, visit the website below

 [Guide to CAMHS \(youngminds.org.uk\)](https://youngminds.org.uk)



[Child and Adolescent Mental Health Services \(CAMHS\) - Leicestershire Partnership NHS Trust \(leicspart.nhs.uk\)](https://leicspart.nhs.uk)

CAMHS also have some excellent resources for parents:



[DOWNLOADS | CAMHS Resources \(camhs-resources.co.uk\)](https://camhs-resources.co.uk)

Staff Wellbeing Charter

The Senior Leadership Team and Governing Body are fully committed to promoting and fostering positive well-being for pupils and staff across Orchard Primary School.

A happy and healthy workforce is vital for the success of our pupils. The culture of a school therefore is critical in ensuring that staff have an enjoyable, rewarding working environment in which all colleagues believe the demands of their job are reasonable and manageable.

The Wellbeing Charter demonstrates our commitment and offer to staff, and ensures that levels of stress and anxiety are reduced as low as possible in the organisation.

The Charter clearly sets out our collective approach for day to day delivery and how we work together, providing a framework that covers the key challenges we face as a profession. The charter also underpins our determination to ensure that our school is a great place to work.

Bereavement

If you have suffered a bereavement and feel that school can support, please do contact us.



[Coronavirus Bereavement – an NHS guide for Parents & Carers](#)



[Coronavirus Bereavement – an NHS guide for teenagers](#)



[Coronavirus Bereavement – an NHS guide for adults](#)



[Grief Support](#)



[NHS bereavement support](#)



[Winston's Wish](#)

Books to support Bereavement:

- Dogger – gentle intro to discussion for very young children

- Badger's Parting Gifts by Susan Varley (particularly useful if an older person has died).
- Michael Rosen's Sad Book
- Tattybogle by Sandra Ann Horn
- Muddles, Puddles & Sunshine by Winstons Wish – is an activity book.
- Vicky Angel by Jaqueline Wilson (a friend's death, for older children)