

A list of Professional Organisations used by St Minver School 2016-2017

Early Help Hub Centre

The Early Help Hub is the single point of access for council and community based health Early Help services for children, young people and families in Cornwall. This is the point of contact for advice and requests for support for a child or young person who:

- May have additional needs that cannot be met solely by universal services and;
- Where there is no perceived risk of significant harm.

The team within the Hub will consist of:

- Contact workers, from a variety of backgrounds including Early Years, Social Care, Education and Early Help, who will process the Requests for Help.
- A professional triage team, from a variety of professional disciplines, who will offer advice, guidance and support on all aspects of Early Help. They will also make recommendations in response to the Requests for Help.
- A Manager who will be responsible for the operation of the Hub and will sign off all recommendations and decisions.

The Speech and Language Therapist

Speech and language therapists (SALT) work closely with preschool children and primary aged children who have various levels of speech, language and communication problems, and with those who have swallowing, drinking or eating difficulties.

The Therapist assesses a child's needs before developing an individual treatment programme to enable a child to improve as much as possible. Treatment plans often involve other people with whom the child has a close relationship, e.g. family, carers or teachers.

SALT usually works as part of a multidisciplinary team, alongside other health professionals such as doctors, nurses, psychologists, physiotherapists and occupational therapists. They may also liaise with professionals in education and social services.

Social, Emotional and Behaviour Support Service

The Social, Emotional and Behaviour Support Service (SEBSS) offers frontline support with pupils and helps build capacity in schools to support challenging behaviour. They are available to support the analysis of behaviour data, the development of policies, risk assessments, the writing of comprehensive behaviour management plans via casework and staff development.

These services are offered to maintained primary schools and nurseries, but are available for purchase by secondary schools and Academies:

- Liaison with or signposting to other agencies or resources
- Gatekeeper for Nurture Groups and KS2 provisions in Alternative Provision Academies
- Pupil Advocacy for vulnerable pupils
- Support with Managed Moves at school request
- Attendance at relevant TAC/CAF, PSP meetings, Child Protection conferences, Annual Reviews
- Transition support and attendance at transitional reviews if required

SEBSS can also offer support to schools in the aftermath of a critical incident.

The service also provides 'Team Teach' (Restrictive Physical Intervention) training to education settings.

The Educational Psychologist

Educational Psychologists are specialists in learning, behaviour and child development. They work directly with children and young people as well as providing expert advice to their parents and carers, and other adults who teach and support them. In Cornwall Council, Educational Psychologists (EPs) work for the Children's Psychology Service which is part of the Children's Early Help, Psychology & Social Care Services.

Who do they work with?

They work currently with children and young people aged 0-19 and their schools and families. Their core role is to promote positive outcomes for vulnerable groups of children and young people including:

- Children and young people with general or specific learning difficulties
- Children and young people with physical disabilities and significant medical needs
- Children and young people in care and those who have social work involvement
- Young people with emotional and mental health needs who may also present with behavioural difficulties

The Community Paediatrician

The Community Paediatrician is a specialist doctor who plays a key role in the identification of children who may have special educational needs. This professional is able to assess a child's needs. As well as advising about health matters, this doctor may discuss his or her concerns about possible learning difficulties.

Community Paediatricians are employed by the Health and Social Services Trusts.

The School Nurse

School nurses work closely with pupils, parents, carers and teachers, offering support and advice on a range of issues from obesity to sexual health. They play a vital role in children's development, carrying out immunisation and screening programmes, managing medical conditions and acting as a point of contact on child protection issues.

The Continence Improvement Service

The Continence Promotion Service for Cornwall provides a specialist service, which offers professional advice, guidance and information on the promotion and management of continence; and facilitates best practice in continence care for faecal and urinary incontinence, including enuresis, and related bladder and bowel problems for children and adults.

The Occupational Therapist

The Occupational Therapist is trained to provide assessment, treatment and rehabilitation for children and young people who have a physical, co-ordination and processing difficulties.

Occupational Therapists are employed by the Health and Social Services Trusts.

The Physiotherapist

A Physiotherapist is trained to provide assessment and treatment in overcoming movement and physical difficulties such as problems of balance, coordination, sitting, standing and walking.

Physiotherapists are employed by the Health and Social Services Trusts.

CAMHS

The Child and Adolescent Mental Health Services (CAMHS), support children and young people up to the age of 18. The service helps children and young people deal with serious mental health issues. These include:

- Anxiety based disorders such as a generalised anxiety, a social anxiety, panic attacks/disorders, simple or specific phobias
- Depression - where there is a risk or a degree of disability or more serious disorders such as bi-polar disorder
- Deliberate self-harm with serious risk or distress. Psychosis or disturbed and disturbing thinking, feeling, sensing and behaviour
- "Adjustment Reactions" to trauma and Post Traumatic Stress Disorder
- Obsessive Compulsive Disorder (including Body Dysmorphic Disorder)
- Tic Disorders inclusive of Tourette's Syndrome

- Eating Difficulties and Disorders
- Developmental or Emotional based eating Difficulties
- Anorexia Nervosa and Bulimia Nervosa
- Mental health and/or significantly challenging behaviour associated with intellectual impairment, genetic conditions or acquired brain injury
- Attention Deficit Hyperactivity Disorder (ADD / ADHD)

The Autistic Spectrum Disorder Team

The Autism Spectrum Team is a new service supporting young people with autism of school age.

The Autism Spectrum Team is an expansion of the existing Autism Services consisting of advisory teachers, specialist and highly specialist speech and language therapists, a specialist nurse practitioner, educational psychologists and Autism Spectrum Team workers.

The Family Support Worker

The family support worker gives emotional and practical help and advice to families that are having long or short-term difficulties. This includes support in helping children to stay with their families if that is what's best for them in the particular situation.

The kind of difficulties facing a family that would be supported by a family support worker could include:

- Drug or alcohol addiction
- A parent in hospital or prison
- Marital or financial difficulties
- A child or parent with a disability
- Problems accessing services due to language barriers.

Families would usually be referred by school or by a social worker. The family support worker would work together with the family to help them by planning and providing the right type and level of support. For example, if the family needed help to improve their home management and parenting skills, the family support worker would include teaching and encouraging them to:

- Develop caring skills
- Learn how to teach children through play
- Understand the how to deal with behaviour difficulties
- Manage the family budget

- Go to local workshops.

A family support worker will show parents how things can be done, and then support them until they can do these things on their own.

Hearing Support Service

In partnership with parents, schools and colleges, related agencies and voluntary organisations, the service aims for children and young people with sensory impairment to:

- Develop good language and effective interactive communication skills
- Develop independence skills
- Be given the equality of opportunity to access a wide curriculum at school and college
- Gain social and emotional inclusion in their wider community
- Achieve economic well-being

The service is staffed by Teachers of the Deaf, specialist Speech and Language Therapist and specialist Support Staff. The Service offers advice and support, educational audiology assessments, specialist teaching.

Referrals can be made by parents, Health Professionals, Speech and Language Therapists, schools and Pre-schools and other SEN agencies.

Vision Support Team

The Vision Support Team is a specialist team comprising of:

- 5 Qualified Teachers of the Visually Impaired
- 1 (part-time) Visually Assistive Technology Teacher
- 2 (part-time) Mobility Education Specialists

The team works with:

Children and young people (0-25 years) with a diagnosed visual impairment in their homes, early year's settings and schools to enable them to overcome barriers to their education caused by their vision loss.

They offer:

- Specialist specific teaching for learners with visual impairment (for example Braille)
- Specialist teaching in using assistive technology for learners with the most significant visual needs.
- Mobility and orientation training for learners with the most significant visual needs.

- Functional visual assessments, followed by written reports and advice.
 - Support and advice for families of young children following diagnosis.
 - Training for staff working with learners.
 - Specialist advice on the adaptation of educational materials to allow learners equal access to the curriculum.
 - Advice on specialist equipment which may enhance learning opportunities.
 - Statutory reports such as Statement advice, Annual Review advice.
- Liaison with a range of other professionals from Health, Social Care and the Voluntary Sector.

The Physical Disabilities Team

The Physical Disabilities Team provides support to students with Physical Disabilities who attend mainstream schools across Cornwall. The key target is to ensure maximum access to the school curriculum. This involves cooperating with medical professionals (OTs and Physios) to ensure good physical access through the provision of appropriate equipment (ramps, toilets, seating etc); as well as often using ICT to improve learning opportunities and to maximise independent recording.

Referrals are accepted from schools (usually the SENCO), from medical professionals and from other colleagues in CFS Support Services.

Jigsaw

Jigsaw is a programme that aims to help children, young people, parents and carers who have alleged sexual abuse. This is achieved through:

- Listening
 - Supporting through difficulties
 - Offering appropriate confidentiality
- Exploring ways to keep safe in the future.

They are a team of professional helpers with experience of working with the issue of alleged sexual abuse.

Jigsaw is for children and young people from 3 to 18 years old, and parents and carers of these children/young people.

Jigsaw is arranged through a Social Worker working for Children's Social Care

There are ten sessions. The first session is an introductory meeting between the child/young person, their parents or carers, the Jigsaw Worker and the Social Worker. The other nine sessions are individual sessions with the Jigsaw Worker.

Action for Children

Action for Children UK is a registered charity that works with vulnerable children and is able to provide an outreach service to support siblings of children who are disabled or who have a learning disability.

Dreadnought

Dreadnought is a registered charity working with children and young people aged 7-19 years who are experiencing difficulties in their lives-be it emotional, physical or behavioural. Dreadnought provides a wide range of support programmes for children and young people who are facing emotional or behavioural problems.

Penhaligon's Friends

A Cornwall based charity which supports bereaved children, young people, parents and carers throughout the county. Penhaligon's Friends are able to offer children and young people the chance to meet others and share their experiences, as well as share practical resources for children and parents.

Barnardo's

Barnardo's aims to alleviate the long-term effects of domestic violence on children through our specialist project workers. Barnardo's provides tailored support, including one to one counselling and group therapy.

Clear Therapy

"CLEAR enables children and young people having experienced an abusive relationship(s) to flourish within a therapeutic setting".

CLEAR is an accredited BACP service and adheres to the BACP Ethical Framework for good practice in Counselling and Psychotherapy and the Healthcare Professions Council.

CLEAR is a unique child/young person centred service in Cornwall, offering counselling face to face and group work with children and young people aged 0-18 and up to 25 yrs with additional needs, who have been traumatised by either direct experience of and/or witnessing physical, psychological, sexual or emotional abuse.

CLEAR also offers support to the non-abusing carer both individually and with the child. Face to face counselling therapy with qualified BACP (British Association for Counselling and Psychotherapy) trained therapists. They work creatively and embrace the unique surroundings of Cornwall.

CLEAR encourages the children and young people to flourish in a therapeutic setting and learn how to: Build safe relationships within their family and friendship circles; Experience

positive feelings; Share concerns and fears; Reinforce Trust and self-belief; Develop coping strategies; Break the cycle of abusive relationships; Take part in social activities; Re-integrate into school and learning. This is an outreach service and covers the whole of Cornwall.

In addition, CLEAR offers a range of therapeutic interventions including: Child Centred Counselling, Music, Drama, Art, DDP, EMDR, VIG, Play Therapy, Narrative Therapy, CBT, Theraplay and Therapeutic Life Story Work.

CLEAR and Secure offers support to children, young people and their families who have experience Child Sexual Exploitation (CSE).

CLEAR's Healthy Relationships Programme delivers workshops to children and young people in schools throughout Cornwall from years 8-11 to raise awareness of healthy relationships and increase understanding of the signs and symptoms of abusive relationships.

Gweres Kernow

Gweres Kernow is a small team of specialist social workers and consultant clinical psychologists who work in partnership with other services to safeguard children who have displayed harmful sexual behaviours and those at risk of sexual abuse. They address the health and wellbeing of those children and young people who display harmful sexual behaviours with the aim of reducing offending and re-offending.

The Education Welfare Service

The Education Welfare Service aims to reduce truancy within Cornwall through anti-truancy schemes operating in certain areas in the county. This is a joint initiative between the Council and Devon and Cornwall Constabulary. Through this initiative the police will have the power to take truants back to school.

The Education Welfare Service can also offer support and help to pupils, parents, carers and schools who may be having problems with attendance.

Remember, if your child is not in school

- They may be putting themselves or others at risk
- They are missing out on educational opportunities
- Parents and carers can be fined up to £2,500 *What can you do to help?*
- Make sure your child arrives at school on time

- Be aware of the school's rules and routines
- If your child is ill, contact the school on the first day they are ill. When the pupil returns to school send an explanatory note of absence
- Ask the schools permission in advance if you wish your child to miss school for an exceptional reason. These are:
 - Approved parental holiday
 - A day of religious observance
- Above all, show interest in your child's school work and maintain contact with your child's school

Unacceptable reasons for absence:

- Shopping
- Birthday trips and treats
- Non urgent medical and dental appointments.

Holidays in term time

Holidays during term-time should not be taken. Only head teachers have the discretion to grant leave during term-time, but they should only do so in exceptional circumstances. If a head teacher grants a leave request, it will be for them to determine the length of time that the child can be away from school. Parents have no right to demand that absences are authorised, but should discuss any plans for leave in term-time with the school. Further information is available on the [Department for Education website](#).

Potential consequences of non-school attendance

If your child does not attend school regularly then the Local Authority may consider one of the following:

- Issuing a penalty notice
- Court proceedings against you

In Court the Magistrates will hear the case and decide whether a conviction is appropriate. Magistrates are able to

- Fine each parent up to £1000 under Section 444(1) of the Education Act 1996
- Fine each parent up to £2500 under Section 444(1a) of the Education Act 1996 ²
Direct the Local Authority to reconsider applying for an Education Supervision Order
- Impose a parenting order under the Crime and Disorder Act 1998. This is designed to support parents in developing their skills in order to prevent a further offence being committed

- Give a conditional discharge for a period of time. This means that if the parent is convicted of a further offence during this time period, the Court will take the conditional discharge into account
- Give an absolute discharge

How can the Education Welfare Service help?

The Educational Welfare Officer (EWO) can provide help and advice on:

- School and attendance issues
- Bullying
- Child protection
- Elective home education
- Exclusion of pupils
- Advice and information on other agencies

What the Law says

The 1996 Education Act makes it very clear that parents must ensure that their child of school age receives regular full-time education. For most parents this is in school. Where children are registered in school they must attend. Only the school can authorise a child's absence. If a child is not registered or does not attend, Cornwall Council may take legal action against the parents or carers where appropriate.

Devon and Cornwall Police involvement

Patrolling officers may speak to children who are truanting from school. In addition, Section 16 of the Crime and Disorder Act 1998 empowers the police to remove truants from a public place and return them back to school; the police can only remove those children who are of compulsory school age.

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