

Community around the setting



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Working Together to Safeguard Children 2018 outlines the ways in which organisations and individuals should work together to safeguard and promote the welfare of children and young people, in accordance with the Children Act 1989 and the Children Act 2004. We know that when we can identify problems early rather than reacting later it is more effective in promoting the welfare of children. This is more easily done when we work together with a multi-agency approach. The Locality and Community Support Service (LCSS) and Health Services offer vital support in safeguarding our Early Years children in Oxfordshire. They provide local contact details for every Early Years setting.

As practitioners, you have a strong relationship with parents and together with the health visitor you can work in partnership to support children in your setting.

You may recognise that you have individual children with needs or a group of children with similar needs and the information here can help you support and assist in their learning and development.

Alongside these services there are many other agencies who can help you. The purpose of this document is to inform you of the range of services available, when and how to contact these professionals.

You will see contacts and roles for the following agencies who you can contact if there is a need:

- Early Years Team
- Locality Community Support Service
- SENSS
- The Virtual School
- The Early Years sufficiency and access team
- Short breaks for disabled children

Health Services –

- 0-19 Public Health Service (Health Visiting, School Health Nursing and Family Nurse Partnership)
- Children's Integrated Therapies (Children's OT, Physiotherapy, SLT)
- Phoenix Team
- Children's Community Nursing, including Special School Nursing
- CAMHS

Additional Partner Agencies

- Police
- OXSIT

Appendix 1 – Further information

Appendix 2 – Funding information

Appendix 3 – Useful links

Service	Early Years Team
What we do	<p>The Early Years Team provides information, advice and training to Early Years practitioners to improve the quality of provision.</p> <p>We do this by supporting practitioners to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • meet the requirements of the Statutory Early Years Foundation Stage • meet the needs of vulnerable learners. <p>provide effective and robust safeguarding and child protection procedures.</p>
Who we work with	Early Years practitioners and leaders in maintained schools, academies, nursery schools, private, voluntary and independent settings.
Details of the universal or targeted services we provide	<p>Universal Services - all providers listed above have access to the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Webpages, Schools News, Facebook page, Free Toolkit (no charges) • Buy-In Toolkit (available to purchase) • Oxfordshire Education Services (charges apply) • Buy in support – Bespoke support can include ‘quality reviews’, advisory visits and training <p>Targeted Services:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Visits to newly registered setting or childminder (not re-registrations). • Work with ‘good’ and ‘outstanding’ settings and childminders will be prioritised using transparent triggers e.g. those with a previous Ofsted outcome less than ‘good’; self-referral by managers or governance; safeguarding concerns; introduction of places for eligible funded two-year olds; settings with a high percentage of vulnerable learners and those due inspection. • Work with settings or childminders judged ‘requires improvement’ or ‘met’ (childminders only) by Ofsted • Work with settings or childminders judged ‘inadequate’ or ‘not met’ (childminders only) by Ofsted • Work with out of School provision judged ‘inadequate’ or ‘not met’ by Ofsted
People who can request our services	Early Years practitioners in Oxfordshire.
Contact details	<p>Telephone: 0845 604 2346</p> <p>Email: early.years@oxfordshire.gov.uk</p>

Service	Locality Community Support Service (LCSS)
What we do	<p>The Locality Community Support Service (LCSS) offers advice and support to partners in the community to deliver Early help as per Working Together to Safeguard Children 2018.</p> <p>To support the ambitions of the Early help strategy, LCSS can advise and support professionals and families regarding Early help, including the use of the Strengths & Needs (a tool to explore family life) and Team Around the Family meetings.</p> <p>LCSS are present in schools and work in the community with partners, both to offer advice, but also to take strategic responsibility for bringing partners together in localities to embed early help and collectively improve outcomes for children and families.</p>
Who we work with	Any professional in Oxfordshire supporting Children and Families
Details of the universal or targeted services we provide	<p>LCSS core offer:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Locality workers provide visits and review meetings to settings, offering advice and support on delivering Early Help to improve the outcomes for children and their families • We provide named conversations to discuss Strengths & Needs, Team Around Family Meetings, and give information on other supports in the community and advice on next steps where necessary • We quality assure community Strengths & Needs and provide professional recommendations to improve outcomes for children and ensure multi agency involvement • Support professionals with Strengths & Needs and the forming of Team Around the Family meetings and attend where needed to strengthen resources and plans • Lead Community Around the School/setting offer (CASO) • Facilitate locality networking events to share knowledge and build relationships in local areas to improve outcomes for children and families • Facilitate peer to peer support meetings to improve Early help practice
People who can request our services	Early Years Childcare Professionals, this service is not for the public. The public can contact the MASH if they have safeguarding concerns.
Contact details	<p>Tel: 0345 2412705 Email: LCSS@oxfordshire.gov.uk</p> <p>Opening Hours: 8.30am – 5pm (Mon – Thurs) 8.30am – 4pm (Fri)</p>

<p>Service</p>	<p>SENSS EY SEND SENSS (Special Educational Needs Support Services): We are a Countywide Special Educational Needs (SEN) teaching and advisory support service. Our aim is that our youngest children with SEND, their families and those practitioners working with them are supported to allow them to make good developmental progress, achieve well and enjoy family and community life.</p> <p>There are many services available to children in the Early Years, prior to entering reception, and beyond.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Service for children who are Deaf • Service for children with Vision Impairment • Service for children with Multi-Sensory Impairment • Service for children with Physical Disability • Early Years SEN team.
<p>What we do</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Support, advise and empower families and those working with them in homes, schools and settings to understand and meet the needs of children with Special Educational Needs and/or Disabilities. • Provide assessment and advice in relation to the child's additional needs or disability • Support families and practitioners to listen and understand the views, wishes and experiences of the children so that they're reflected in their provision • Support families to help their children to develop independence and a positive self image. • We provide advice, support, interventions and training. • We collaborate to keep the Early Years SEN toolkit and EY Guidance and Procedures web pages up to date with relevant practical information about support for children with additional needs. • We offer a range of training; including bespoke sessions around an individual child's needs, whole setting courses around a specialist need and support for continuing professional development such as EY SENCo training. • We respond to all Early Years queries that come via the SENDCO helpdesk. • We provide support for families and those working with them to manage specialist equipment • There are parent support groups for parents of deaf children, children with vision impairment and multi sensory impairment and for children with physical disabilities. • There is parent training for parents of children newly diagnosed with Autism Spectrum Difference (ASD).
<p>Who we work with</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • We work with children with: • SEN / disability with significant needs, having been referred to a community paediatrician at any age from birth to entry to reception class

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A confirmed hearing, vision or multi-sensory impairment having been referred from either paediatric audiology or the low vision clinic
Details of the universal or targeted services we provide	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Training is available through Education Services Oxfordshire Education Services • EY SENCO networks offer termly updates and content which focuses on reasonable adjustments for children with a range of Special Educational Needs. • Early Years SEN toolkit provides information on additional resources to support children's special educational needs Early Years SEN toolkit Oxfordshire County Council • Online EY SEND page that supports schools and settings to follow the SEND Code of Practice and implement the graduated response Guidance and procedures to support providers Oxfordshire County Council
People who can request our services	<p>Parent/Carer, Health Visitors, Paediatricians, Therapists and other Health professionals, Early years settings/schools/childminders.</p> <p>SENSS does not become involved with individual children who are deaf and/or have a vision impairment until assessment through either paediatric audiology or the low vision clinic confirms that support from one of the sensory teams is needed.</p>
Contact details	<p>Please follow the links below for our pages on the Local Offer for further information:</p> <p>EY SEN team</p> <p>SENSS Local Offer</p> <p>Contact details: Early Years SEN: EarlyYearsSENInclusionTeachers@Oxfordshire.gov.uk SENSS: senss@oxfordshire.gov.uk</p>

Service	The Virtual School
What we do	<p>The Virtual School is responsible for improving the educational attainment of Children We Care For and Care Leavers in the authority; including those that have been placed in other authorities.</p> <p>In addition, the Virtual School has an extended statutory duty to promote the education achievement of previously cared for children in the authority by providing information and advice.</p> <p>Since 2021/22, the Virtual School has had an additional extended non-statutory duty to promote the education of children subject to a Child in Need plan or a Child Protection plan aged from 0 up to 18 in educational settings and those who have previously had a social worker. This includes</p>

	<p>children who are disabled and have, or have had, an allocated social worker.</p> <p>The core purpose of the Virtual School is to remove barriers to education for care experienced children so that they can; access, engage and excel in their education.</p> <p>The Virtual School ensure schools, early years providers, social workers, carers and other professionals understand their statutory responsibilities and are aware of best practice.</p> <p>Our role is to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Promote high aspirations and raise achievement through challenge, support, and targeted intervention. • Ensure that our children and young people access a suitable educational placement which meets their educational and pastoral needs. • Ensure children do well in education, which leads them onto a long-term education, training and employment pathway. • Ensure that our children and young people can access high quality support, which meets their needs in a timely way. • Work closely with all those involved in providing education to ensure they understand the issues and challenges facing our children/young people and their role in working together to respond to and overcome them. • Ensure challenges resulting from changes of care placement or educational provision are reduced. • Ensure barriers to engagement and good attendance are removed. • Promote equality/equity and diversity. • Previously cared for children are given advice, guidance and signposting around educational issues.
<p>Who we work with</p>	<p>Schools, early years providers, social workers, carers, specialist professionals</p>
<p>Details of the universal or targeted services we provide</p>	<p>The Virtual School provides:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Monitoring of school attendance. • Guidance and advice to ensure cared for children have an effective, high quality Personal Education Plan (PEP). • Offer direct support to schools/early years providers through the Designated Teacher/Person. • Advice on appropriate targeted interventions, staff training, educational resources. • Guidance to make sure Pupil Premium funding is used effectively to improve educational outcomes. • Advice on individual situations to achieve the best possible outcomes for children we care for. • High quality training and support for our partners to assist them in undertaking their roles to support cared for children. • Information and guidance on current legislation and practices in relation to children we care for. • Advice on seeking the views of children we care for and care leavers and develop new ways of communicating with them.

People who can request our services	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Schools • Early Years providers • Social Workers • Foster Carers
Contact details	<p>Virtual School for Children We Care For and Care Leavers Oxfordshire County Council Abbey House Abingdon OX14 3JD Telephone: 01865 328550</p> <p>www.oxfordshire.gov.uk/virtualschool</p>

Service	The Early Years Sufficiency and access team
What we do	<p>The early years sufficiency and access team deliver the Council's statutory obligations under various sections of the Childcare Act 2006 (as amended). The main areas of work are:</p> <p>To secure sufficient childcare for working parents. To secure early years provision free of charge.</p> <p>To arrange appropriate funding of the entitlements through a mixed market of providers and to ensure appropriate requirements for delivery are met.</p> <p>To secure the equivalent of 30 hours of free childcare over 38 weeks of the year for qualifying children.</p> <p>To provide information, advice and assistance to parents and prospective parents.</p> <p>We fund providers to set up and expand where the council is aware that it needs the places.</p> <p>We withdraw funding from providers who do not meet the requirements for the funded entitlements.</p> <p>We publish a yearly Childcare Market Assessment which reports on how well we are delivering our statutory obligations and what plans are for future work on closing any gaps.</p>
Who we work with	<p>We work with circa:</p> <p>105 schools (including academies) with a nursery class 7 freestanding and attached nursery schools. 266 childminders 295 providers in the private, voluntary and independent sector.</p> <p>The Foundation Years quality team who support and challenge the above providers according to Ofsted grade.</p>

	<p>Health teams, health visitors, social workers, the fostering service and SEN and disability teams in relation to ensuring the greatest take up of childcare and the early education funding entitlements.</p> <p>Through the Family Information Service, we work with parents, in order to help them access early education and childcare and provide brokerage where needed.</p> <p>We work with the youth service, to ensure that activities for children and young people are represented on the Family Information Service database.</p>
<i>Details of the universal or targeted services we provide</i>	<p>We passport out Government funding for the early years and childcare entitlements;</p> <p>A universal offer for all three and four year olds to 15 hours a week or 570 hours a year of free early education.</p> <p>A targeted offer for an additional 15 hours per week or 570 hours per year for eligible working parents of 3 and 4 year olds.</p> <p>A targeted offer of 15 hours or 570 hours a year of free early education for eligible two year olds.</p> <p>We pay providers supplements for supporting children with additional needs such as the early years pupil premium, inclusion support, disability access fund, and a deprivation supplement.</p> <p>We provide a database for parents and carers to allow them to make choices about and access early education and childcare places and activities for children. It also holds information on funding childcare.</p>
<i>People who can request our services</i>	Parents, providers, other teams within OCC and colleagues outside of the council.
<i>Contact details</i>	<p>Family Information Service FISenquiries@Oxfordshire.gov.uk 01865 323332</p> <p>Early education EarlyEducation@Oxfordshire.gov.uk 01865 894811</p> <p>Eligibility checking for 30 hours www.childcarechoices.gov.uk</p>

Service:	Short Breaks Team
What we do	The Short Breaks Team provides information on opportunities for disabled children and young people to spend time away from their families and have fun during “out of school” hours. These Short Breaks also provide families with a break from their caring responsibilities while the child/young person is attending the activity.

<p>Who we work with</p>	<p>Disabled children, young people and their families. SENCO's in schools. Professionals in Social Care Teams; Health and Education supporting disabled children to access out of school activities. Local voluntary and private organisations.</p>
<p>Details of the universal or targeted services we provide</p>	<p>To find out what Short Breaks support is available for families, please read the Short Breaks Statement. shortbreakstatement (oxfordshire.gov.uk)</p> <p>Families and professionals can also search on the Family Services Directory (www.oxfordshire.gov.uk/familyinformation) for possible activities or childcare in the area where the family live. More information on conducting a search is here - How to search Family Information Directory (oxfordshire.gov.uk)</p> <p>We have commissioned several organisations to provide after school, holiday and youth activities for disabled children across the county. To find out more please look at the Short Break webpage – www.oxfordshire.gov.uk/shortbreaks.</p> <p>To help families find “out of school” activities, some Special Schools will have a professional in the school that their child attends who can support them to find activities for their child. If a Special School does not have anyone in the school to help, families and professionals can contact the Disability Information Officer by email - pauline.mackinnon@oxfordshire.gov.uk or on 07554 330244. Families and professionals supporting disabled children in mainstream schools can also contact Pauline MacKinnon.</p> <p>Some families (those on low income and/or benefits) may need help with paying for activities or getting to them. If this is a barrier they can ask their OSLO if they have one, or Pauline MacKinnon about this and more information can also be found on the Short Break webpage (link above).</p> <p>To remove the barriers to play and promote inclusion, short term 1:1 funding can also be provided through the Enabler Support Scheme. More information on this is also on the Short Break webpage (link above).</p> <p>We also keep families and professionals informed of upcoming activities, events and training through a monthly e-newsletter - the Short Breaks Update. To be added to the mailing list, please email cdsredesign@oxfordshire.gov.uk.</p> <p>We also have a Facebook group page, Oxfordshire SEND Families Together (https://www.facebook.com/groups/569327876929330) to also share information. To join, simply go to the page, answer the joining questions and submit your request.</p>
<p>People who can request our services</p>	<p>All Short Break activities are open access, allowing families to go directly to commissioned organisations. Families can also be referred by a professional supporting the families.</p>

Contact details	<p>For more information please contact:-</p> <p>Kay Willis (usually works Tuesdays & Wednesdays) Disability Services Development Manager 079202 52095 or email kay.willis@oxfordshire.gov.uk</p> <p>Angela Tait, Disability Services Development Officer 07935 602888 or email Angela.Tait@oxfordshire.gov.uk</p> <p>Pauline MacKinnon, Disability Information Officer, Family Information Service 07554 330244 or email pauline.mackinnon@oxfordshire.gov.uk</p>
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Service	Oxford Health Foundation Trust - Health Services
0-19 public health service	<p>Health Visiting - Oxford Health NHS Foundation Trust Health Visiting Service</p> <p>What we do: Health visitors are registered nurses/midwives who have additional training in community public health nursing. We provide a professional public health service based on best evidence of what works for individuals, families, groups and communities; enhancing health and reducing health inequalities through a proactive, universal service for all children 0-5 years and for vulnerable populations targeted according to need.</p> <p>School & college health nurses - Oxford Health NHS Foundation Trust</p> <p>What we do: School nurses are qualified nurses who work in state schools across Oxfordshire. We have nurses based in all secondary schools and further education colleges, and a team who look after children in primary schools.</p> <p>Family Nurse Partnership - Health Visiting Service Health Visiting Service (oxfordhealth.nhs.uk)</p> <p>What we do: Our family nurses are specially trained and work alongside younger parents regularly in their home, offering support and up-to-date information from the early stages of pregnancy, up until your child is two, or as decided by the family and their nurse. The main aims of the Family Nurse Partnership programme are to;</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • support mums to have a healthy pregnancy • improve the health and development of babies • support mums to plan for their future

Children's Integrated Therapies	<p>Children's Integrated Therapies - Oxford Health NHS Foundation Trust Children's Integrated Therapies</p> <p>What we do: Children's Integrated Therapies in Oxfordshire include occupational therapy, physiotherapy, and speech & language therapy. We aim to support children and young people and their families by working with our partners in health, education, social care and voluntary and independent agencies.</p>
Phoenix Team	<p>https://www.oxfordhealth.nhs.uk/phoenix/</p> <p>What we do: We work together with families and professionals to provide health support to children and young people in specific circumstances. These include children who are:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • at risk of exploitation • under a court order with the Youth Justice Service • living in homes under the Oxfordshire's Residential and Edge of Care Service <p>The team is also responsible for the coordination and completion of the statutory health reviews for children who are looked after by Oxfordshire County Council (Children We Care For).</p>
Children's Community Nursing	<p>Children's Community Nursing – Oxfordshire - Oxford Health NHS Foundation Trust</p> <p>What we do: The Children's Community Nursing Service (CCN) is a well-established team of experienced Children's Nurses, many of whom have a community qualification. The nurses have direct involvement with a child, helping parents provide treatment and monitoring their progress. We aim to work in partnership with the family and other professionals who may be involved in supporting the family.</p>
CAMHS	<p>Oxfordshire Oxford Health CAMHS Oxford Health CAMHS</p> <p>What we do: CAMHS help children and young people up to 18 who are finding it hard to cope with everyday life because of difficult feelings, behaviour or relationships.</p>

Your Guide to Additional Partner Agencies

Service	Police
What we do	Thames Valley Police is the largest non-metropolitan police force in England and Wales. We police the counties of Berkshire, Buckinghamshire and Oxfordshire, and serve a diverse population of more than two million, plus six million visitors who come to Thames Valley each year. The Thames Valley Police force area is divided into 12 Local Policing Areas (LPAs). For more information, visit the Thames Valley Police website.
Who we work with	Public
People who can request our services	All members of the public.
Contact details	<p>In an emergency telephone 999</p> <p>Non-emergency: Telephone:101</p> <p>Thames Valley Police website https://www.thamesvalley.police.uk (opens in a new window)</p> <p>Neighbourhoods in this force area https://www.police.uk/thames-valley/</p>

Service	OXSIT
What we do	<p>OXSIT Inclusion Consultants offer support to primary, secondary schools across Oxfordshire. The team specialise in all aspects of educational inclusion.</p> <p>We support the strategic development of inclusion provision in schools with a particular focus on early identification and improving provision for pupils at SEN Support by developing an effective graduated approach that improves outcomes for learners. OXSIT also offers support to improve the outcomes for pupils with challenging behaviour, SEMH, and EAL pupils as well as those in receipt of the Pupil Premium Grant.</p> <p>OXSIT Inclusion Consultants are experienced SENCOs. They are passionate about improving outcomes for learners at all stages of their educational journey and in all school contexts.</p>
Who we work with	OXSIT Inclusion Consultants work with schools in both primary and secondary sectors, including work in nursery classrooms. We work with senior leaders, SENCOs, teachers and teaching assistants to develop inclusive practice for

	<p>all learners. Our aim is to promote the early identification of barriers to learning, so that pupils can be supported through the school's graduated approach to enable them to progress with their peers. The team's local knowledge means they are well placed to signpost schools to services for support for individual pupils.</p>
<p>Details of the universal or targeted services we provide</p>	<p>We work with school leaders and SENCOs to ensure all learners with SEN and those entitled to the pupil premium thrive in their education. We work with new and experienced SENCOs and train school leaders to support learners vulnerable to underachievement.</p> <p>In-school consultancy support can be purchased through annual packages. Details of our offer can be found on our Education Services page: Oxfordshire School Inclusion Team (OXSiT) Oxfordshire Education Services</p> <p>Our offer includes:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • High quality training for SENCOS, teachers, TAs on many aspects of SEND and inclusion (via OPL sessions or for whole staff meetings) • Advice on appropriate targeted interventions and educational resources. • Guidance on best practice to ensure SEN provision is effective to improve educational outcomes. • Advice on individual situations to achieve the best possible outcomes for pupils. • Information and guidance on current SEND legislation and best practices
<p>People who can request our services</p>	<p>The OXSIT service is fully traded to schools. In-school support can be purchased through annual packages or through our pay-as-you-use service.</p>
<p>Contact details</p>	<p>Jane Elvidge Senior Inclusion Consultant Jane.Elvidge@Oxfordshire.gov.uk General enquiries OXSiT@Oxfordshire.gov.uk</p>

Your Additional Online Resources

Oxfordshire Multiagency Children and Family Practitioner's Toolkit

Visit the [Oxfordshire Practitioner's Toolkit](#) for ready-to use tools, resources and information to support work with children and families in Oxfordshire. Search for services in the Family Information Service Directory, and access early help tools, links and helplines in the online toolkit. Registered Practitioners can also access our forum, document library and enhanced information about services, providers and activities – click on Register and follow the instructions.

Don't worry about losing your password; access to the Toolkit, Service Directory, News and information pages will never require sign-in. See Appendix 3 for more information.

www.oxfordshire.gov.uk/practitionertoolkit

Neglect Practitioner Portal

Neglect is the persistent failure to meet a child's basic physical and/or psychological needs, likely to result in the serious impairment of the child's health or development (**Working Together to Safeguard Children 2018**).

In Oxfordshire, neglect is the most common reason for children becoming subject to a child protection plan (and to a repeat plan). It is a common feature in the county's recent serious case reviews. It is difficult to define and often coexists with other forms of abuse. Apart from being potentially fatal, neglect causes great distress to children and affects their wellbeing in the short and long term. In 2015 Oxfordshire County Council ran a pilot to improve the way we work together to tackle the issue of neglect. Work from this pilot has been synthesised and evaluated to create a new [neglect practitioner portal](#).

The Neglect Practitioner Portal includes guidance, useful downloadable tools and interventions, child protection tools, processes and procedures and information about what works from families where neglect has been an issue, in their own words.

www.oscb.org.uk/themes-tools/neglect/neglect-toolkit-home-page

<https://www.oscb.org.uk/documents/neglect-strategy-for-oxfordshire-2020-2023/>

Oxfordshire Family Information Service

Oxfordshire's Family Information service provides a database of 7000+ services and activities for children and families in Oxfordshire plus free reliable information on:

- Finding childcare (including lists of childminders and creches)
- Family and parenting support and services (voluntary and statutory)
- Activities to support wellbeing for young people aged 13-19 (up to 24 with LDD)
- Services for children with disabilities or special educational needs (SEND Local Offer)

www.oxfordshire.gov.uk/familyinformation

Family Solutions Service

Find out more information about the Family Solutions Service (FSS) [Family Solutions Service | Oxfordshire County Council](#)

The Family Solutions Service (FSS) will provide support to families across Oxfordshire and will focus support for children aged 0 – 19 (and up to their 25th birthday if children have special educational needs with an Education Health and Care Plan in place) and families in greatest need.

The Family Solutions Service will integrate the Children's Social Care Family Support Service with the Early Intervention Service. The aim is to provide timely support and interventions through case work and targeted interventions to vulnerable children and families requiring statutory or targeted support to reduce safeguarding concerns.

In each centre there will be a statutory team and an early help team, who will work together to provide support to children in need, those on child protection plans and those who are looked after by Oxfordshire County Council.

Family Solutions Early Help

The Early Help Team will work closely with partner agencies to provide a range of services including open access and programmes related to parenting, domestic abuse, school readiness and access to education, employment and training (EET). They will also provide targeted case work, as well as specialist EET and substance misuse case work, via Aquarius. The Early Help Team will continue to liaise with schools to complete return interview for missing children who are not known to children's services.

Children who have additional needs, which LCSS have agreed with partners, cannot be met through the TAF, will be able to access Early Help support. To access Early Help an EHA/TAF or statutory assessment/plan needs to be in place. A conversation should then be had with LCSS who will support practitioners in making decisions about the appropriateness of Early Help support.

Safeguarding

MASH - (Multi Agency Safeguarding Hub)

The front door to Children's Social Care for all child protection/ immediate safeguarding concerns. For example:

- Allegations/concerns that the child has been sexually/physically abused
- Concerns that the child is suffering from severe neglect or other severe health risks
- Concern that a child is living in or will be returned to a situation that may place him/her at immediate risk
- The child is frightened to return home
- The child has been abandoned or parent is absent

You should call the MASH immediately **Tel: 0345 050 7666**

(This number will take you through to Customer Services who will ask a series of questions and triage into MASH where safeguarding concerns are raised).

Designated Officer (LADO)

The Local Authority Designated Officer (LADO) role is outlined in Working Together and is in place to ensure that allegations against people working with children are progressed in a timely and appropriate way. The role covers all settings where people work with children (e.g. Football Clubs, Church Groups and Child Minders) not just Oxfordshire County Council employees.

The LADO should be made aware of all cases in which it is alleged that a person who works with children has:


- behaved in a way that has harmed a child, or may have harmed a child;
- possibly committed a criminal offence against or related to a child; or
- behaved towards a child or children in a way that indicates s/he is unsuitable to work with children.


The LADO will liaise with the employer to ensure that whoever is the subject of an allegation is supported appropriately and to assist the employer in deciding whether individuals should receive a suspension from work during the enquiry.

[Education Safeguarding Advisory Team & LADO - Oxfordshire Safeguarding Children Board \(oscb.org.uk\)](http://oscb.org.uk)

Appendix 1

Further information – Oxfordshire services for young people affected by sexual harm

<p>Horizon - Horizon (Supporting Young people and families affected by sexual harm) aims to reinstate a sense of safeness and well-being for young people and their families who are experiencing distress as a result of sexual harm. We provide advice, formal consultation, and supervision for professionals, which can help to determine the most appropriate service or to develop a joint care plan to meet a young person's needs. For some young people, where there are particularly complex needs, we can offer specialist assessment and recommendations about further care, or direct psychological intervention. In all cases, we will work jointly with other agencies, such as social care and in partnership with SAFE!, as needed. The service sees children and teenagers under 18 living in Oxfordshire.</p> 	<p>Age range: 0-18</p> <p>Gender: All genders</p> <p>CSE/CSA: Both</p> <p>Support offered: Confidential consultation to professionals, specialist assessment, direct intervention for young people and families</p> <p>Referral pathway: Professional referrals</p> <p>Contact details: 01856 902634</p> <p>horizon@oxfordhealth.nhs.uk</p>
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<p>SAFE! – SAFE! Support for young people affected by crime is an Oxford based charity commissioned by the Thames Valley Police and Crime Commissioner to provide support services to children aged 8 to 18 who have been harmed by crime, with a priority service for those involving sexual violence or domestic abuse. We provide a home-based service, with up to 12 one-to-one sessions to help repair the harm caused by victimisation, as well as distinct support for parents. Support is often based on protective behaviours and restorative approaches to encourage young people to regain a sense of safety and grow in confidence but can also include practical help navigating the criminal justice process. Targeted and universal preventative group work can be provided in schools. We also arrange fun activities and peer support during holidays.</p> 	<p>Age range: 8 to 18 (up to 25 for those with additional needs) and parents support.</p> <p>Gender: All genders</p> <p>CSE/CSA: Both</p> <p>Support offered: One to one, group work, parent support.</p> <p>Referral pathway: From professionals or direct referral from CYP/parents</p> <p>Contact details: 0800 133 7938</p> <p>safe@safeproject.org.uk</p> <p>www.safeproject.org.uk</p>
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Appendix 2

Funding information

<https://www2.oxfordshire.gov.uk/cms/public-site/early-education-fund-nursery-providers>

Early Education Funding (EEF) for 2, 3 and 4 year olds

<https://www.oxfordshire.gov.uk/residents/business-and-funding-childcare-providers/early-education-fund/funding-2-3-4-year-olds>

Early Years Pupil Premium

Practitioners - <https://www.oxfordshire.gov.uk/business/information-providers/business-and-funding-childcare-providers/early-education-fund/early-years-pupil-premium>

Parents - <https://www.oxfordshire.gov.uk/residents/children-education-and-families/information-parents/find-childcare/help-paying-childcare/early-years-pupil-premium>

Funding to support children with SEN

Inclusion Funding

The SEN Inclusion Fund is available to providers of children with low level, emerging SEN needs who get Early Education Funding and are not yet in a reception class. This SEN funding offers providers a contribution of £38.50 per week during school term times (or stretched offer). This fund is not aimed at children who have higher or more complex needs such as those who might be getting EY SEND additional funding or those who have an Education Health Care Plan.

<https://www2.oxfordshire.gov.uk/cms/sites/default/files/folders/documents/childreducationandfamilies/educationandlearning/earlyyearschildcare/workinginearlyyears/funding/nurseryeducationfund/ProviderPortalGuidance-SEN.pdf>

Request Additional funding

If evidence shows that the child needs are higher/more complex than Inclusion Funding can support, then an application for Additional Funding (docx format, 81Kb) can be considered.

<https://www.oxfordshire.gov.uk/residents/good-practice-and-ideas-childcare-providers/sen-support-providers/guidance-and-procedures>.

Disability Access Fund

This fund is for childcare providers (including schools) to claim an extra £615 per financial year for some 3 and 4-year-old children who need extra support to access their free entitlement for 3 – 4 year olds. To be eligible the child should be getting Disability Living Allowance.

<https://www.oxfordshire.gov.uk/business/information-providers/childrens-services-providers/sen-support-providers/guidance-and-procedures>

Short Breaks for disabled children/ Inclusion Support Scheme

This funding will enable disabled children and young people to access play, childcare and leisure opportunities with other children and young people. The priority for this scheme is to support disabled children of families on a low income to access short break opportunities in out of school activities and/or holiday activities.

<https://www.oxfordshire.gov.uk/residents/children-education-and-families/information-parents/breaks-disabled-children>

Appendix 3 - Useful Links

Personal, Social and Emotional Development

Source	Description	Website
MindEd for families	Behaviour and emotional well-being	MindEd For Families
NICE	Social and emotional well-being, Early Years	https://www.nice.org.uk/Guidance/PH40
Early Years Matters	Principle into Practice	http://earlyyearsmatters.co.uk/wp-content/uploads/2011/03/eyfs_unique_child_health1.pdf
OXPIP	OXPIP helps parents and their babies in Oxfordshire to build close and supportive relationships. OXPIP is a service specialising in the emotional needs of parents and babies, from conception and throughout the first two years of life.	https://www.oxpip.org.uk/

Communication and Language Development

Source	Description	Website
Speech and Language UK	Children's communication charity, which produces helpful materials and training courses to support practitioners in helping to develop language and communication skills.	Speech and Language UK: Changing young lives
Foundation Years	Parts that other professionals play in language development.	Early language From pregnancy to children aged 5 (foundationyears.org.uk)
Tiny Happy People	All the advice and videos have been quality-checked by panels of professionals including health visitors, midwives and speech and language therapists.	Speech and Language Therapy: How Tiny Happy People can help if you're waiting on speech and language referrals - BBC Tiny Happy People
Bookstart	Inspires the love of books and reading	https://www2.oxfordshire.gov.uk/cms/content/bookstart
Oxfordshire Libraries	Book resources, stay and play sessions	https://www2.oxfordshire.gov.uk/cms/public-site/libraries
Peeples	Supporting children and families learn together.	https://www.peeples.org.uk/
50 things to do before you're 5	A menu of exciting activities for families in Oxfordshire with young	50 Things to do before 5 in Oxfordshire

	children, giving them great suggestions for how to have fun and learn at the same time.	
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Documentation to Support Transition

Source	Description	Website
Early Years toolkit	Information to make transition easier for practitioners, parents and children.	https://www.oxfordshire.gov.uk/business/information-providers/childrens-services-providers/good-practice-and-ideas-childcare-providers/early-years-toolkit
Early Years Transition pack	Resources to support the transition of records for children moving to a new school or setting.	Early Years Foundation Stage Transition Pack Oxfordshire County Council
Working with children Birth to three	The first three years of life are a period of incredible growth in all areas of a baby's development	Working with children from birth to three Oxfordshire County Council

Working with parents

Source	Description	Website
Speech and Language UK	Speech, language and communication resources for parents.	Resource library for families (speechandlanguage.org.uk)
Special Educational Needs	Information, advice and support for parents and children about SEN	https://www2.oxfordshire.gov.uk/cms/public-site/information-advice-and-support-parents-and-children-about-sen
The Local Offer	Introduction for SEND in Oxfordshire	Special educational needs and disability: The local offer Oxfordshire County Council
PACEY	Tips, factsheets and downloads for parents. School Readiness information	www.pacey.org.uk/working-in-childcare/spotlight-on/partnerships-with-parents www.pacey.org.uk/working-in-childcare/spotlight-on/being-school
Early Years for parents	Support for parents from baby to preschool	Support for parents from baby to preschool Oxfordshire County Council
Save the Children - Lighting up young brains	How parents, carers and nurseries support children's brain development in the first five years	www.savethechildren.org.uk/resources/online-library/lighting-young-brains
Starting school	Information and advice regarding starting school.	https://www2.oxfordshire.gov.uk/cms/public-site/starting-school Getting children ready for school Oxfordshire County Council
Early Years Funding Entitlements	Information and advice regarding early years entitlement.	https://www2.oxfordshire.gov.uk/cms/public-site/early-education-fund

Better Health – Start for Life	Trusted NHS help and advice during pregnancy, birth and parenthood.	Start for Life home - NHS (www.nhs.uk)
Homestart	Helping families with young children.	https://www.home-start.org.uk/home-start-banbury-chipping-norton https://www.home-start.org.uk/home-start-oxford https://homestart-southernoxfordshire.org.uk/
Family Links	Supporting children, parents and teachers with their emotional health and wellbeing, with an emphasis on early intervention.	https://familylinks.org.uk/
Peeples	Supporting children and families learn together.	https://www.peeples.org.uk/
OXPIP	Helping parents to make loving and secure bonds with their babies.	https://www.oxpip.org.uk/
Hoop	Find everything going on for kids. Hoop makes it easy to find and book local activities from newborn to 11 years old.	https://hoop.co.uk/
Flo's - The Place in the Park	Training, seminars and interesting events for practitioners, carers and families	www.flosoxford.org.uk
Fegans	Fegans' family support services, and in-school counselling, are targeted. Children and/or families are referred by schools/Early Help/other services.	www.fegans.org.uk
The Berin Centre	Family Services for families with under 5's, Employment Services for all, Counselling, One-one Family Support, Stay and Play Sessions, Health Visitor Clinic, Speech & Language Therapy	https://www.theberincentre.co.uk/
Family Information Directory	Search for activities, childcare and what's on locally	Family Information Directory (oxfordshire.gov.uk)
50 things to do before you're 5	Download the app for ideas and local information	50 Things to do before 5 in Oxfordshire

Partnership working

Source	Description	Website
GOV.UK	A toolkit of practical strategies to help schools develop parental engagement.	www.gov.uk/government/publications/how-to-involve-hard-to-reach-parents-encouraging-meaningful-parental-involvement-with-schools

PACEY	Tips for working with parents	www.pacey.org.uk/working-in-childcare/spotlight-on/partnerships-with-parents
Coram Family and Childcare	Focusing on the early years	Coram Family and Childcare Family and Childcare Trust

Special Educational Needs and Disabilities

Source	Description	Website
Support services for SEND	Services to help children and young people aged 0-25 with their learning, health and social care needs.	https://www2.oxfordshire.gov.uk/cms/public-site/support-services-send https://www2.oxfordshire.gov.uk/cms/public-site/special-educational-needs-and-disability-local-offer
Dyslexia Association	Support and information for individuals and families living with dyslexia.	https://www.bdadyslexia.org.uk/
Dyspraxia	Dyspraxia Foundation has a free downloadable booklet specifically for Early Years.	https://dyspraxiafoundation.org.uk/?fbclid=IwAR2av7Y27SwKU7yW_Ynn4gBxOvF4kRA1B58xDbIJ-9CEVHVuSzZMFA4WAiU
SEND: Guide for early years settings	A guide for early years settings on the support system for children and young people with special educational needs.	www.gov.uk/government/publications/send-guide-for-early-years-settings
Autism Oxford	Development of autism services	http://www.autismoxford.org.uk/
The Mulberry Bush Outreach	Offering support and information for professionals, in schools and social care settings, working with children/young people who have experienced trauma. We provide training, staff support, supervision and resources for those working with children who exhibit behaviours which may be challenging.	https://mulberrybush.org.uk/learning-research-centre/outreach/ outreach@mulberrybush.org.uk (01865) 594700

Resources for practitioners

Source	Description	Website
EAL Resource –	Early Years toolkit - Useful resource to support your practice. Additional useful links on back page	https://www.oxfordshire.gov.uk/business/information-providers/childrens-services-providers/good-practice-and-ideas-childcare-providers/early-years-toolkit Guidance for Early Years practitioners on supporting children learning English as an Additional Language (EAL). (oxfordshire.gov.uk)

Nursery World	Early years education publication	www.nurseryworld.co.uk/school-readiness
Education Endowment Foundation	Early years toolkit	Evidence for the early years EEF (educationendowmentfoundation.org.uk)
Early Years toolkit	Useful resources to help develop your early education setting.	https://www.oxfordshire.gov.uk/business/information-providers/childrens-services-providers/good-practice-and-ideas-childcare-providers/early-years-toolkit
Attendance guidance and policy.	Policy and why attendance is important in the Early Years.	https://www2.oxfordshire.gov.uk/cms/content/early-education-toolkit
Committee support	Including roles and responsibilities of the committee	https://www2.oxfordshire.gov.uk/cms/public-site/running-group
Early Years Alliance/ ACAS	Support for committee/management	early years alliance (eyalliance.org.uk) http://www.acas.org.uk/index.aspx?articleid=1410
Forces families	Working together to support the armed forces community	https://www.oxfordshire.gov.uk/council/armed-forces-oxfordshire
Traveler information and resources	My Home story books are available to download for free and are produced by Educational Advice for Travellers.	https://www.gypsy-traveller.org/about-us/ https://www.gypsy-traveller.org/policy-publications/?wpv-publication-type%5B%5D=resource-library&wpv_aux_current_post_id=5448&wpv_view_count=5633&wpv_paged=2 Gypsies and Travellers Oxfordshire County Council
Education Services	Quality training for Early Years practitioners	Oxfordshire Education Services
OSCB	Safeguarding training and all up to date information	http://oscb.org.uk/booking-training/
PACEY	Business information for childminders	https://www.pacey.org.uk/business/?fbclid=IwAR3wdSdPEJRPAXu7oEyMxfWN8UpSBnyp0nQMHTNa7NcZhr0_qlf9dY4MQ
My community OCVA Grants Finder (Oxfordshire County Council)	Many different grants available for communities, and a list of some key search engines to keep up to date with all the latest grants available.	https://mycommunity.org.uk/funding-options/raising-finance-options/grants/ Funding – Oxfordshire Community & Voluntary Action (ocva.org.uk) Funding for community groups Oxfordshire County Council

Oxfordshire Early years	The local authority early years team works with foundation stage practitioners and leaders across Oxfordshire and beyond	A range of short CPD opportunities (oxfordshireearlyyears.co.uk)
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Health and well-being

Source	Description	Website
ERIC The Children's Continence Charity	Toileting support	www.eric.org.uk
Community dental services	Deliver and promote oral health programmes and education services to ever more communities.	https://communitydentalservices.co.uk/our-services/oxfordshire-oral-health-promotion-2/
Anna Freud National Centre for children and families	Supporting wellbeing and mental health for staff, children and families	www.annafreud.org
Young carers	Services to support children and young people who provide care to relatives.	Family Information Service Young Carers Team - Family Solutions Service (oxfordshire.gov.uk)
Carers Oxfordshire	Carers Oxfordshire is a free service which offers information, advice and support to adult carers of someone living in Oxfordshire.	Carers Oxfordshire is a service dedicated to helping carers in Oxfordshire
Elmore Community Services	Mental Health and Complex Needs Floating Support Service. Age 18 – 65 who live in Oxfordshire. Can be a self-referral.	Elmore Community Services
My Life My Choice	Oxfordshire based charity, to raise self-esteem, confidence and quality of life of people with learning difficulties.	https://www.mylifemychoice.org.uk/
MIND	Dealing with hardship / crises, learning, volunteering, improving well-being. Coaching & practical support.	https://www.mind.org.uk/information-support/a-z-mental-health/
Archway	voluntary organisation and befriending service based within the City of Oxford and works with people in Oxford and Abingdon to help relieve some of the distress caused by loneliness.	https://archwayfoundation.org.uk/
Shelter	Take referrals from people in crises. Have experience of Mental Health, complex needs.	https://england.shelter.org.uk/housing_advice/homelessness/your_situation/disabilities_and_health_conditions_help_if_youre_homeless

Aspire	Multiple barriers to employment, dealing with Mental Health.	Who we are Aspire Oxfordshire Community Enterprise Ltd
Flo's - The Place in the Park	Training, seminars and interesting events for practitioners, carers and families	www.floxford.org.uk