

CONFIDENTIALITY POLICY

Everything you say will be treated in confidence, but the Parent Support Advisor is legally obliged to reveal the following:

Information relating to child abuse, acts of terrorism and drug trafficking Act (1994) or concerns for the safety of the individual or others.

HOW WILL IT WORK?

Family Work places a strong emphasis on the relational aspect of the work i.e. working **with** parents rather than **for** them.

It is an holistic approach, focusing on improving family life as a whole, from the premise that atmosphere and environment at home will affect how well young people are able to access educational opportunities, thus enhancing long-term life experiences.

EVERY CHILD MATTERS

Every child should be:

- Be healthy
- Stay safe
- Enjoy and achieve through learning
- Make a positive contribution to society
- Achieve economic wellbeing

The programme demands that all organisations that provide services to children work together in more integrated and effective ways.

Lipson Vale Primary School is committed to ensuring every child has equal opportunities in school and in the community.



Working in partnership
with parents.

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WHAT IS PARENT SUPPORT?

Parent support is exactly what it implies—a service that supports parents and families.

There are times in every family's life when things aren't running so smoothly and it can be difficult to know how to cope or the next step to take.

Family Work is not about telling people how to bring up their children or interfering with a family's affairs. It works on the basis that parents know their children better than anyone else, and believes that parents have what it takes to bring up their children. It recognises that being a parent is one of the most demanding jobs anyone can have.

BENEFITS TO PARENTS

Often the issues affecting families are complicated and it can be helpful to share these difficulties. The PSA can provide parents with a safe space to discuss these issues.

Parent Support helps parents to recognise and build on their strengths:

- A parent may feel that the biggest issue facing them at the moment is not concerning their children, but needing help in another area of their life. The PSA may be able to offer support in other areas, or at the very least, point them in the right direction of where to receive help.
- Getting together as a group can really assist in helping parents realise that they are not the only ones experiencing the particular challenges that being a parent brings.
- Groups can provide a place to share and learn from the experiences of others, learn new skills and build supportive relationships.

PARENTS HAVE NEEDS TOO!

Parent Support recognises that parents have needs too. Parents are dealing with their young person's transitions through different stages of development and this can be extremely difficult. It is important that a trusting relationship is built with the family, that they feel confident to access the support they need and that they have every opportunity to talk to someone who is not part of a statutory service.

In order to provide the most effective and cohesive approach, the family worker will aim to work closely with any other agencies involved, as well as other members of staff involved with the family to provide a complimentary service.