



Gateway Outreach work

Information for Parents/Carers

We all know that children learn best when they feel happy, safe and secure.

Nowadays, there seem to be lots of new and different pressures on children that sometimes result in them feeling anxious, worried or unhappy at certain times in the school day.

They may have fallen out with a friend or feel that they are being left out or 'picked on'.

They may be finding it difficult to stick to school rules for all sorts of reasons. They may feel angry or upset because of changes at home.

All children can have these experiences at times, and learning how to deal with them is part of growing up.

Parents/Carers will be aware that children need a lot of guidance and support with their social, emotional development and empowerment skills (making good choices) as they get older.

The Gateway works with children in small groups from Reception to year 6, to offer extra help in developing these skills and the sessions are delivered in your child's own school. The groups will consist of:

- Some targeted children chosen by their class teacher to attend for the full programme and their parents will be notified by a more detailed letter. These children work hard to role model positive behaviours to their peers.
- Role models - these children will only attend a couple of sessions and will be chosen by their class teacher, due to their positive behaviours and attitudes to school life. This strategy helps to promote behaviour changes in other children who may be struggling to make the right choices and also helps other children who may be low in self-confidence.
- Possible bespoke programmes such as 'Drawing & Talking' and Emotional Development.

Through activities that will include art, drama, and music, the staff will create a safe place for small groups of children (or 1:1 in the bespoke programmes) to get a better feeling of working and playing together. Each session will have a different theme, for instance 'Friendships/Cooperation', 'Building Self-Esteem/Confidence', 'Developing Speaking / Listening Skills' or 'Making Positive Choices', Behaving Safely.

Sessions will be run with a member of staff from your child's school and will be held twice a week (once per week for bespoke programmes). The length of the intervention depends on the programme chosen. There will be time before the programme starts for the children to discuss the sessions and if you have any questions, there will be an opportunity to meet with staff.

If you have any questions regarding this work or require more information, please speak to your child's class teacher or feel free to contact the Gateway staff on the number below.

Telephone: 0113 2550603