

# Meet Our Family Support Workers

Mrs G Sedgwick



Miss C Pointing



## A Family Support Worker is...

- ◆ An active listener
- ◆ A positive role model
- ◆ A guide
- ◆ An encourager
- ◆ Approachable
- ◆ A source of information
- ◆ A non-judgemental supporter
- ◆ An observer
- ◆ A professional friend

## Why do children have Family Support Workers?

Children benefit from the opportunity to talk to an adult other than a parent or a teacher and can find it useful to talk to someone who is not directly involved in their everyday lives. Common reasons for us to work with children range from: friendship issues, boosting self-esteem and confidence, promoting positive behaviour, developing appropriate social skills, recognising, understanding and managing emotions and supporting a child through life events and challenges both in and out of school.

## Who can refer to a Family Support Worker?

Teachers, school staff, parents and carers and even children themselves can ask for pastoral support.

**Our children's happiness and safety is our priority!**

## What is a Family Support Worker?

A Family Support Worker helps to support children within the school to overcome any issues that may be stopping them from engaging at school and with their learning.

They work with children to help them realise their potential and raise their achievement, as well as supporting children with social and emotional challenges, while being someone that the children can talk to if they need to.

Family Support Workers can also support children's parents and carers with any concerns that are affecting the family's home life or in supporting their children.

## What does a Family Support Worker do?

As Family Support Workers, we work across the school, supporting children with their emotional, social and behavioural learning. We can provide 1:1 sessions, group sessions, support during break and lunch times and we can also work with a child in class. We work with children for different reasons and so the help we offer depends on the need of the child, but could include:

- ◆ Listening to children and discussing anything that is worrying them.
- ◆ Helping to raise a child's confidence and self-esteem
- ◆ Developing emotional literacy
- ◆ Developing coping strategies and emotions management
- ◆ Building resilience
- ◆ Encouraging children to do their best in school and setting targets
- ◆ Increasing motivation
- ◆ Developing social skills and helping to manage friendship issues
- ◆ Addressing attendance issues

Another important part of the Family Support Worker role is to provide support and information for the parents at the school. We arrange coffee mornings where we invite a key speaker to share information on a range of issues, agencies and support services and can give parents advice and support in accessing these different services as well as referring to other agencies that can offer more specialised support if requested.

## Where to find us

We are always available to chat about any issues or concerns that are affecting family life. You can find us...

- ◆ On the playground before school.
- ◆ Ask at the main reception office.
- ◆ Telephone the school



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