Woodrush High School

An Academy for Students Aged 11-18

Supporting Families – 2026-27

Providing Family to our pupils and families at Woodrush High School means we are more effective in promoting support as soon as we can. Early help means providing support as soon as a problem emerges, at any point in a child's life.

<u>Key Pastoral Support Staff that support Universal and Targeted in School Early Help</u>

Safeguarding and Wellbeing

Mental Health and Wellbeing			Looked After Children	Early Help Support
Mr Monk Deputy Headteacher – Designated Safeguarding Lead (DSL) and Senior Leader for Mental Health Wellbeing Youth MHFA Champion Senior Leader responsible for Looked After Children	**Mrs Bromwich-Lee** School Counsellor Youth MHFA Champion	**Ashna Omar & Amanda Bennett** **Children's Wellbeing Practitioners** Mental Health Support Team (MHST) - Herefordshire and Worcestershire NHS Wellbeing and Emotional Support Team (WEST)	**Mrs Francis** Inclusion Leader / Deputy Designated Safeguarding Lead (DDSL) / Lead for Looked After Children	**Mrs D Cassidy** Inclusion Leader / Deputy Designated Safeguarding Lead (DDSL) / Pupil Premium Support
Provision in School				
Mr Monk is the Designated Safeguarding Lead in school and the Senior Lead for Wellbeing and Mental Health. If your child is experiencing severe Mental Health issues always contact your GP in the first instance. You can also make referrals to CAMHS (Child and adolescent mental health support) or we can support that referral.	Mrs Bromwich-Lee is the school counsellor providing support for students who need help and support at any time. We offer counselling for: • bereavement • anxiety • friendships • trauma support • bullying • welfare • social, emotional, mental health needs further referral for support to external agencies	Asha and Amanda are our in school Mental Health Support Team assigned to the school. They support students with CBT and wellbeing support through the NHS.	Mrs Francis is a Deputy Safeguarding Lead and our Lead teacher for Looked After Children. She coordinates support for students who are currently in local authority care or have previously been in care. We ensure that we work closely with families to offer support and structure to overcome any difficulties This includes specific guidance and support for or LAC students	Mrs Cassidy is a Deputy Designated Safeguarding lead. She is our main lead on Early Help and supporting families with Early Help Assessment. Mrs Cassidy also supports our Pupil Premium Students – Attendance, Enrichment and Academic Outcomes. The role also encompasses supporting families in economic hardship with uniform and foodbank support

Student Support and Development

Social and Emotional Development		SEND	Family Support and Engagement
Mrs Holtom-Brown Deputy Headteacher – Attitudes to Learning	**Mr Taylor** Director of Behaviour and Attitudes	**Mrs Stafford** SENCo	**Mrs Gittins & Mrs McCarthy** SEND Family Support
Mrs Holtom-Brown supports the behaviour and attitudes to learning of students within the school as well as School Attendance & punctuality. This includes: • Providing support for students not engaging in school • Behaviour Support Plans • Working with external agencies to provide support for students. • Supporting students in alternative provision	Mr Taylor supports our pastoral team by providing bespoke packages of support for students to ensure their attitudes towards their learning improves. This includes: • Restorative support for students • Behaviour workshops and conferences	Mrs Stafford leads and co-ordinates provision in our SEND department. In Student Support, students can receive one to one and small group academic interventions, screening for learning and behavioural needs, ADHD support. AHD support, emotional and social interventions, co-ordinated external support, and numeracy and reading programs. Ruby our therapy dog is also used to support students	Mrs Gittens and Mrs McCarthy work closely with families whose children have learning needs or need social and emotional support. They closely liaise with families to ensure support is in place and also support staff to ensure the right support is in place for these students

Family Support

Woodrush High School

In conjunction with Worcestershire Children's First and Birmingham Children's Trust, Woodrush High School has a system to support our families to help assess the needs of our most vulnerable families.

Getting Help When Needed

At Woodrush we are always here to help. Mrs Cassidy is here to support some of our most vulnerable families. Ensuring our students are well supported at home, are punctual and attending school as well as supported with their academic progress.

Why Contact Us?

- Help is always available to our families in the Woodrush Community - we are here to help
- No problem is too big or too small - we are here to meet the needs of every child at Woodrush

Uniform

Students in receipt of Pupil Premium Funding can receive support for new uniform. We also have used uniform that can be collected from school

Foodbank

We recognise that feeding large families can be difficult. We are able to provide food parcels when needed

Other Support

Advice about housing and debt relief is available as well as support towards effective parenting, Mental Health advice and SEND support

Contact Now

01564 823 777

dcassidy@woodrush.org

www.woodrush.org

Family Support

Woodrush High School

Level One - Universal Support

- Tutor Support
- Personal Development Programme
- Head of Year Support
- SHARP System
- Online Support - e.g. Kooth
- PSHE Curriculum
- Online Safety
- School Nurse

Level Two - Early Help

- Family Welfare Support - DEC
- School Counsellor
- Purple Diamond - Mentoring
- Create Space
- SEND Family Support
- Peer Mentoring
- Welfare & Emotional Support Teams (WEST)
- SEND Family Support

Level Three - External Support & Children's Services

- Family Support
- Worcestershire Virtual Family Hub
- Worcestershire Local Safeguarding Partnership
- Birmingham Safeguarding Children Partnership

Contact Now

01564 823 777

dcassidy@woodrush.org

www.woodrush.org

SAFEGUARDING WOODRUSH HIGH SCHOOL

Woodrush High School is committed to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children and young people, and expects all staff and volunteers to share in this commitment.
If you have a concern that any child or young person is at risk or is at risk of being harmed, please contact one of our Designated Safeguarding Leads

DESIGNATED SAFEGUARDING LEADS

Mr D Monk

Deputy Headteacher
Designated Safeguarding Lead
Senior Mental Health Lead

Mrs D Cassidy

Student Engagement Leader
Deputy Designated Safeguarding Lead
Early Help Support

Mrs J Francis

Student Engagement Leader
Deputy Designated Safeguarding Lead
Teacher for Looked After Children

Mrs J Davies

Attendance Welfare Officer
Deputy Designated Safeguarding Lead

School Telephone
01564 823 777

WOODRUSH HIGH SCHOOL

MENTAL HEALTH SUPPORT

SENIOR MENTAL HEALTH LEAD

Mr D Monk
Deputy Headteacher / DSL / SMHL

Woodrush High School is committed to supporting the social, emotional and mental health of our whole school community. All students are able to access support by speaking to any of our trained Youth Mental Health First Aid (MHFA) Champions. Students can also access support or report concerns they have about their peers on our SHARP system.

ADULT MENTAL HEALTH SUPPORT TEAM

Ms C Stables
Operations Manager

Mrs A Zaman
Woodrush Training Consortium

YOUTH MENTAL HEALTH SUPPORT TEAM

Mr. J Barber
Headteacher

Mrs. M Holtom-Brown
Deputy Headteacher

Mr. I Wright
Deputy Headteacher

Mrs. J Francis
Engagement Leader/LAC/DDSL

Mrs. J Davies
Attendance Welfare Officer DDSL

Mr J Holtom
Lead Head of Year

Mrs. D Cassidy
Engagement Leader / Early Help / DDSL

Mrs. K Parker
Youth Centre Manager

Miss Onacko
Head of Year

Mrs. A Stafford
SENDCo

Mrs. S Bromwich-Lee
School Councilor

Mr J Pollard
Head of Year

Mrs. D Gittens
SEND Family Support

Mrs. R Price
Alternative Curriculum

Miss Capaldi
Head of Year

Mrs. M McCarthy
SEND Family Support

Mrs. C Bishop
Engagement Leader

Mr B Taylor
Head of Year

Mrs. J Locke
Student Services

Mrs. J Andrews
SEND Intervention Lead

Mrs. K Desmond
Engagement Leader Attendance

Family Support Worcestershire

Family Support Birmingham

Birmingham's Right Help, Right Time (RHRT) framework sets out four layers of children's needs: Universal, Universal Plus, Additional and Complex/Significant. Our Early Help offer predominantly focuses on the two middle layers - Universal Plus and Additional Needs. Universal

Universal - a range of services such as maternity services, health visitors, school nursing, GP practices, early years, school and education settings, housing and youth services are provided as a right to all children including those with universal plus, additional and complex needs. These services are well placed to recognise and respond when extra support may be necessary either because of the child's changing developmental, health and wellbeing needs or because of parental or family circumstances.
Children with **Universal Plus** needs are best supported by those who already work with them such as health professionals, children's centres, school settings, organising additional support with local partners as needed. This can be through an Early Help Assessment and a Family Plan.
For children with **Additional Needs** a co-ordinated multi-disciplinary approach is usually best led by a professional already known to the family. This lead professional will engage the family and other professionals to co-ordinate support through one plan. Where the support needed is more than a lead professional can organise effectively, the Family Support/Think Family services can work with the family in a more intensive way.
Complex/Significant Needs are those where statutory and/or specialist intervention is required to keep children safe or to ensure their continued development.

Supporting Families

Family Support is a pathway to supporting you and your child as they grow up when you or they may need further support or guidance.

Providing support to our pupils and families at Woodrush High School means we can improve outcomes for children, families, and communities, providing support as soon as a problem emerges, at any point in a child's life, from the early years through to teenage years.

Family Support can help children and their families who may be struggling with:

- Routines and family rules
- Families who may not be eating healthy food
- Keeping to a healthy lifestyle
- Children who are caring for a family member
- Children who may not want to go to school for different reasons
- Disability within the family including children being a young carer
- Children in the family have special educational needs (SEND)
- Children who may becoming involved in anti-social or criminal behaviour
- Children who go missing from home
- Children or parents / carers misusing drugs or alcohol
- Children at risk of being tricked, forced, or made to work in the criminal world
- Children who may need support because they may live in a home and see drug or alcohol abuse or adult mental health problems.
- Children who have parents who argue a lot (and sometimes might hurt each other) whether the parents live together or apart.
- Children at risk of being groomed to join groups which support illegal views
- A privately fostered child (a child from another family living within your family home)

Family Support relies upon local groups and people in the community, sometimes we work together to help children, young people, and their families.

Everyone needs help at some time in their lives and therefore an ethos of early help is important for any school.

Local Services

Family Hub

Pear Tree - Bromsgrove

We provide a variety of services from our Family Hubs, including parenting courses and groups, community activities, health visiting clinics and vitamin collections. For more information on vitamins and how to purchase them please visit our Healthy Start - Vitamins | Starting Well (startingwellworcs.nhs.uk)

Contact Us

Hub opening times

Monday - Friday 9:00am - 4:30pm

Address

Pear Tree, Broad Street, Bromsgrove B61 8LW

Telephone

01527 835775

School Holidays

Welcome everyone, we're glad you're here!
Bring it on Brum, also known as Birmingham Holiday Activities, is a new programme for families in Birmingham, set up to help all.

Across the City there will be a whole host of activities taking place in schools, leisure centres, youth clubs, community venues and parks.

Children, young people (and their parents) have fulfilling, active, fun-filled and healthy school holidays.
Activities include indoor and outdoor games; cookery skills; arts and crafts; sports, fitness and dance; health and wellbeing; quizzes; park activities and nature trails.

Bring it on Brum! – Holiday Activities and Food

Youth Centre

Woodrush Youth and Community Centre is a warm and friendly place to socialise with your friends outside of school. As well as opportunities to be involved in arts and crafts, cooking, games and workshops they have:

- an outdoor games area
- game consoles
- pool tables
- table tennis
- computer room
- tuck shop
- sports night (football and basketball

Groups:
Mondays 7pm -9pm: Ages 13yrs to 18 yrs for young people who go to Woodrush High school or live in Wythall (School year 9/13 - free entrance fee)

Tuesday 6.30pm- 8.30pm: Ages 11yrs to 13 yrs (school years 7/8) for young people who go to Woodrush High School or live in Wythall. Entrance fee £1.00

Thursday's evenings are dedicated to special projects and change throughout the year. Please contact Woodrush Youth and Community Centre for the latest clubs taking place.

Local Foodbank

Hollywood Christian Life Centre operates the local food bank at Simms Lane, Hollywood, B47 5HN (01564 822726)

The food bank is making a real difference in the lives of some families in our local area, so every support is appreciated.

The food bank is open every Monday from 1.30-2.30pm for anyone who needs it.

Donations can also be made at this time or can be dropped off at the Parish Council Office, Beaudesert Road, Hollywood B47 5DP between 10am and 2pm Monday to Friday. All donations will be passed to the Hollywood Christian Life Centre.

If you are able to donate, then the following food and essential items are specifically needed:
– deodorant, shower gel, shampoo, washing liquid, washing up liquid, toilet roll, Sanitary towels
– biscuits, tinned meat, tinned tuna, tinned vegetables (e.g. carrots/potatoes) tinned ready to eat dishes like meatballs in tomato sauce, stewed steak, etc.
– cereals, pasta, rice

	Alternatively, financial donations are appreciated as these are used to purchase the items that local families need but are struggling to afford.
Family Support District Team	**Library**
Bromsgrove, Family Support Team contact number: **01905 845154** Team email address: FamilySupportBromsgrove@worcschildrenfirst.org.uk **Worcestershire Virtual Family Hub -** Virtual Family Hub | Worcestershire County Council	The library, which is located on the first floor of the Woodrush Community Hub, provides access to a wide range of resources in a modern and vibrant space. Worcestershire County Council and Woodrush High School are working in partnership to run an integrated library service for the local community. You can **access your library account renew loans online -** capitadiscovery.co.uk or by visiting any other Worcestershire Library. You can renew over the phone by calling the Worcestershire Hub on 01905 822722 or you can use our 24 hour automated renewal system on the same number. **Worcestershire Libraries & Learning Service** Worcestershire Libraries | Worcestershire County Council Normal Opening Times • Monday: 9:30am - 1.00pm, 2.00pm - 5.00pm • Tuesday: 9:30am - 1.00pm, 2.00pm - 5.,00pm • Wednesday: 9:30am - 1.00pm, 2.00pm - 5.00pm • Thursday: Closed • Friday: 9:30am - 1.00pm, 2.00pm - 5.00pm • Saturday: 9:30am - 1.00pm, 2.00pm - 4.00pm

Health (including mental health, emotional wellbeing, and sexual health)

The **Starting Well Partnership** offers a range of health services which support both children and families experiencing a range of health issues.

Worcestershire Health Visiting Service | Starting Well (startingwellworcs.nhs.uk)
If your child is under 5 years old and you need advice on issues such as feeding, behaviour, or toileting you can contact the *Telephone Advisory Service* on 0300 123 9551 (Monday – Friday 9am til 3pm). A Health Visitor will assist you over the phone with any worries, concerns, or questions you have.

School Health Nursing | Starting Well (startingwellworcs.nhs.uk)
School health nurses offer a range of services such as home visits, health needs assessments, time4u drop-in service, school aged hearing and national child measurement programme to support the needs of children and their families.

Text service supporting young people | Starting Well (startingwellworcs.nhs.uk)
Chat health is a free and confidential text service for young people in need of advice or support
To confidentially contact your school nurse, text: 07507331750

Social Prescribing: Onside Advocacy, Worcestershire (onside-advocacy.org.uk)
Social Prescribers support you to take control of your health and look after yourself by making connections with the different types of community support available.

CAMHS | Herefordshire and Worcestershire Health and Care NHS Trust (hacw.nhs.uk)
CAMHS provides mental health help to children, young people and their families across Herefordshire and Worcestershire

Home - Kooth
Kooth is an online mental wellbeing community which offers free, safe, and anonymous support.

Reach 4 Wellbeing | Herefordshire and Worcestershire Health and Care NHS Trust (hacw.nhs.uk)
The **Reach4Wellbeing** team promotes positive wellbeing to reduce the stigma of mental health by providing short-term group programmes for children and young people age 5-18 experiencing mild to moderate anxiety and low mood.

Papyrus UK Suicide Prevention | Prevention of Young Suicide (papyrus-uk.org)
Papyrus can offer suicide prevent support providing free and confidential helplines, advice, webchats, and resources.

Home | Healthy Minds (whct.nhs.uk)
Healthy Minds' 24/7 mental health helpline provides support or advice if you, or someone you know, is experiencing a mental health crisis and needs urgent help. Its available 24 hours a day to anyone in Herefordshire and Worcestershire.

Winston's Wish - giving hope to grieving children (winstonswish.org)
Winston's Wish provide support for children and young people following the death of a sibling, parent, or a person important to a child.

Sexual Health Know Your Stuff | Sexual health | Worcestershire County Council
Worcestershire Integrated Sexual Health Service (WISH) | Herefordshire and Worcestershire Health and Care NHS Trust (hacw.nhs.uk)
WISH offer friendly and non-judgemental specialist services to support with information and advice, contraception, pregnancy, STIs and screening.

Under 21 Saturday Service - Clinic telephone lines are open between 10:00am – 12:30pm on Saturdays - Please call: 01905 681673 for further details.

Young People have a telephone consultation and are asked questions about their relationships. Callers will be advised what to do next and directed towards a clinic if necessary.

WISH have a dedicated Outreach nursing service. Referral forms can be found at www.knowyourstuff.nhs.uk. The Outreach team see young and vulnerable people who couldn't otherwise access sexual health services.

Free STI test kits and contraception: SH:24 Free Home STI STD Test | Sexual & Reproductive Health (sh24.org.uk)

Bullying (including Cyberbullying)

If you are concerned your child or a child, you know is being bullied there are several services and useful links which can help you support your child as a parent.

In the first instance if bullying is happening at school, please speak to a member of staff who will be able to help.

The following links will provide you with more information if you or someone you know is being bullied:

- Is your child or someone you know being bullied? | Worcestershire County Council
- Are you being bullied? | Worcestershire County Council
- Cyberbullying | Worcestershire County Council
- Kidscape | Resources and Publications

Online Safety

If you have concerns around the safety of your child or a child you know online, the following links will provide you with information, support, and advice to help understand the risks and keep your child safe online:

- Think U Know | Information for parents
- Online safety | Barnardo's (barnardos.org.uk)
- Educate Against Hate
- www.internetmatters.org
- BBC | 8 tips for staying safe online

Sexting is the sending or receiving of sexually explicit images, videos or conversations online.
Sexting and sending nudes | NSPCC
Think U Know | Parents Sexting Guide

Relationships

The following services and links offer information, advice, and intervention on healthy relationships for your family and children:

- Healthy relationships | NSPCC

- Challenges at home: Harmony at Home – information and support for parent carers | Worcestershire County Council

- CRUSH is an awareness raising and support programme to help young people make safe and healthy relationships. http://www.westmerciawomensaid.org/crush/

- Relationships | The Family Hub | Worcestershire County Council

Friendships and relationship in teenagers

Making friends and starting new relationships are a big part of getting older. It's very common to fall out with friends or break up from relationships – which can be very difficult to deal with. You might

also be in a relationship that doesn't feel right and need some advice about what to do. The websites below contain lots of information about making friends, peer pressure, healthy and unhealthy relationships, sex and much more. There is also information available for parents around how to talk to your child about friendships, sex and relationships.

Friends, relationships and sex | Childline

NHS Choices - How to talk to your child about sex (opens in a new window)

NHS Choices - Sex and young people (opens in a new window)

SEND (Special Educational Needs and/or Disabilities)

Please see Early Help Support above for support from Woodrush High School SEND Department

If you are looking for information or advice the following links will help you:

SEND Local Offer | Worcestershire County Council or contact localoffer@worcschildrenfirst.org.uk

SEND Information, Advice, Support Service SENDIASS Worcestershire and Herefordshire (hwsendiass.co.uk)

The Online Family Hub has been developed to provide you with a range of different types of resources that are available to you online, on the phone or face to face that you can access directly.

The Family Hub can offer you support and information with the challenge's family life can bring.

The Family Hub | Worcestershire County Council

WORCESTERSHIRE
VIRTUAL FAMILY HUB

Worcestershire Young Carers

Worcestershire Young Carers aim to identify, and support children and young people aged 7 to 24 years who have a caring role within the home and help look after a parent, sibling, or grandparent due to illness, disability, physical or mental health difficulties or substance misuse.
Worcestershire Young Carers/Shropshire Young Carers | YSS

Carers | Worcestershire County Council

Finance, Housing and Employment

If you are facing challenges around employment and income, please contact the local job centre who can with offer support with jobseekers' allowance, incapacity benefit, employment and support allowance and income support:

Redditch Jobcentre Plus - Prospect Hill, Redditch, Worcestershire United Kingdom, B97 4DL Telephone: 0845 6043719
Worcester Job Centre Plus, Haswell House, Sansome Street, Worcester, WR1 1UZ Telephone: 0845 6043719

Citizen's Advice Bureau Worcester Citizens Advice Bureau and WHABAC (Worcester Housing and Benefits Advice Centre) (citizensadviceworcester.org.uk)

Building Better Opportunities is a service to help local people move closer to employment. Building Better Opportunities (fusionworcs.co.uk)

For information on what financial and housing support is available in Worcestershire, please visit: Housing and finances | The Family Hub | Worcestershire County Council

Parenting Support

The Starting Well Partnership offer a range of parenting support, information, groups, and courses. For information on the groups available please visit: Parenting groups | Starting Well (startingwellworcs.nhs.uk)

Parenting Talk is an online hub offering information, advice, and a free confidential online chat with a parenting advisor.
Parent Talk - Support for Parents from Action For Children

Homestart can work with you to provide one to one support in the family home each week. This service provides support tailored to your needs and can help you as parents they learn to cope and build confidence to provide as best you can for your children.
Home-Start | South Worcestershire (home-startsw.org.uk)

Family Information Service

Do you need advice and support around finding childcare? The following link will provide you with the contact details of the Family Information Service's District Teams: Family Information Service | Worcestershire County Council

Substance Misuse

Swanswell - Cranstoun

Here 4 Youth is support service for children and young people up to the age of 18 who may be struggling with their use of drug and / or alcohol. Here4YOUth Worcestershire - Cranstoun

Do you have a family member in prison?

Do you have a family member in prison which is having an impact on your child? Support is available to work with both the person in prison and your family.
NICCO

Families First provides support and guidance in a safe space, to enable the whole family to cope with the demands of having a partner, and parent, in prison: Families First | YSS

Get Safe

If you are worried your child is at risk of being tricked, forced, or made to work in the criminal world please speak to a member of staff and visit Get Safe for help and information.

If you are experiencing any of these challenges or issues affecting family life, please contact a member of staff who will be happy to provide you further advice and support.