

<b>Early Help Offer – Wrap around support for students</b>			
<b>Current Status</b>	Operational	<b>Last Review:</b>	New combined Strategy
<b>Responsibility for Review:</b>	Group Head of Welfare and Safeguarding	<b>Next Review:</b>	July 2025
<b>Approved by:</b>	SET	<b>Originated:</b>	March at SAT Many years WSC

### Introduction

At Eastern Colleges group which includes West Suffolk College, One 6th Form College and Abbeygate 6<sup>th</sup> form college, provides a team of support staff to help students while they are studying with us. These College services are listed in detail below. This is the Early Help Offer, which supports students to remain at College and be successful in their study. Some colleges may vary slightly in services but mostly it is the same across the Group.

### Student Liaison Officers

At present we have a team of Student Liaison Officer who act as the first port of call for all Duty Officer calls our College. They patrol areas making sure that students are behaving well and support them as necessary. They are trained to carry out random searches in class and in College for drugs should there be a need. They maintain contacts with the local police force and keep them updated with any intelligence that we hold.

### Personal Progress Tutors

Personal Progress Tutor (PPTs) are the first port of call for students. PPTs are located in Student Services or in curriculum areas and each PPT has a cohort of students to support. They will monitor the attendance and achievement of their students, liaise with parents and carry out Progress Reviews with each student regularly. They also deal with any low-level welfare issues signposting on higher-level welfare concerns. This includes instances of bullying and harassment where the PPTs use restorative justice methods to resolve issues. They facilitate PHSE (Personal Health Social Education) sessions with their students delivering on topics such as Prevent and British Values as well as healthy relationships and healthy mind and body.

### Positive Intervention Programme

The PIP (Positive intervention Programme) is used when a student has barriers to overcome to enable them to positively engage at College. These students have

usually stopped attending College and we work hard with them and their Next of Kin to re-engage and reintegrate them back into College life. In some cases, PPTs will visit a student at their home to work with them and their Next of Kin to develop a bespoke plan to support the student, to successfully complete their chosen study programme.

### **Student Welfare**

The Manager and Welfare Officers are all Alternate Designated Safeguarding Leads and are the first point of contact for all safeguarding issues in College. The department offers and refers students to it's in house counselling service. Close working relationships between Social Care Services, health services and other support agencies are paramount. We see students with any issue that may affect their time in College. This can include poor mental health, housing issues, health issues, and concerns in relationships or the family. Students with Mental Health issues are RAG rated and monitored along with Children in Care, Young Adult Carers and 14-16 year olds. Strong links are in place with the Young Adult Carers service, Social Workers and the virtual schools associated with Children in Care.

Welfare Officers attend Child Protection conferences, Child in Need meetings, Family Network Meetings, Child in Care reviews and Social Worker led PEPS (Personal Education Plans).

The Group Head of Welfare and Safeguarding is responsible for all Welfare Operations within Eastern Colleges Group – West Suffolk College , One 6<sup>th</sup> Form College and Abbeygate 6<sup>th</sup> Form College. She represents the Eastern College Group at the Suffolk Safeguarding Partnership Meetings, The PREVENT Delivery Group, and The Area Safeguarding Group and sits on the Channel Panel.

Our Welfare Officers are trained in WRAP (Prevent training), County Lines and Safeguarding level 2 to train the trainer level and ensure all staff are adequately trained in up to date topics.

### **Counselling**

We have a team of counsellor who support students within College. The Service runs Monday to Friday. Students can have eight sessions of counselling. Counsellors will support students with any number of personal issues. Sessions last for 50 minutes and are held in appropriate confidential spaces in the College or online as students prefer.

### **Working with Other Agencies**

The Student Welfare team regularly work with other agencies providing them space to support students. Referral to, liaison with and support is available in College from the following list of agencies and any others (as appropriate) to the student at the time. Students can access these services via Student Welfare:- Turning Point, Police Suffolk, Young Adult Carers, Virtual Schools - Suffolk, Norfolk, Cambridgeshire, Social Care Services, Mental Health, Probation, Youth Justice, One Step Closer, Diabetic nurses, Young Peoples Workers (CYP 0-19),

## Enter policy name here

---

The Ferns, Fresh Start New Beginnings, Local GP'S, PREVENT, HE/FE Coordinator. In addition the Local Authority are contacted regularly with lists of students that withdraw and, any vulnerable individuals who are at risk of becoming NEET (Not in Education or Employment) are monitored termly with the Young Persons workers to make sure they do not become NEET.

**SEND support Please see the SEND support policy.**

### Revision History

Revision date	Reason for revision	Revision number	Changes made