



ST JOSEPH'S PRIMARY SCHOOL - HOME SCHOOL LINK WORKER

My name is Kate Stratford, and I am the **Home School Link Worker** for St Joseph's School.



WHAT DOES THE HOME SCHOOL LINK WORKER DO?

- Offers support and encouragement to children and their families, parents and carers
- Helps to improve communications between families and St Joseph's School
- Helps promote positive behaviour
- Enables children and parents to discuss concerns or worries in a safe and secure way
- Works with individuals in a flexible way to best support children and their families
- Helps children grow in confidence and enable them to enjoy participating in life at school and beyond.
- Helps families and children to access services, resource, local community information and support
- Offers individual guidance and parenting support and support in attending school meetings
- Helps children and families to improve attendance and punctuality at school
- Listens in a non-judgemental environment and offers support and solutions
- Helps children to get the best out of their time at St Joseph's School
- Helps children and their families who are experiencing changes and offers support on a wide range of issues that may impact on family life
- Offers help with completing benefits forms and other official paperwork.

WHO CAN THE HOME SCHOOL LINK WORKER HELP?

- Children who are withdrawn, anxious or have friendship issues
- Parents/carers who are finding managing the child's behaviour difficult
- Parents/carers whose children are not attending school or who have been excluded.
- Children/parents/carers who are experiencing difficult changes such as bereavement or parental separation or where issues are impacting on family and school life, such as illness or domestic violence.

WHAT IS THE AIM OF THE HOME SCHOOL LINK WORKER?

- To ensure all children enjoy school and are happy and secure.

HOW DO I CONTACT THE HOME SCHOOL LINK WORKER?

- Parents/carers, schools and children can ask me to become involved.
- With the consent of parents/carers we will explore the difficulties and problems and identify the best and fastest way forward, by everyone working together for the benefit of the child.

- Speak to your child's teacher and ask them to make a referral.
- Contact Kate during term time on 07500 802 732 or email kstr3838@st-josephs-pri.oxon.sch.uk, or via your child's teacher, or call the office to leave a message.

Try to tay safe

Be ealthy

Try to njoy & achieve

Be conomically aware

Make ositive contributions

As a Home School Link Worker I will listen to you with respect and treat what you tell me as private. (Although if a "child protection" issue is identified, I

am bound by law to follow school procedures).

Being a parent or carer can be the most fun and rewarding thing in the world. But it can also be hard, and one of the most difficult things to get right. On a day-to-day basis, most of us don't have anyone to tell us if we are getting it right or doing a good job or not.

When times get tough, or even just when things are not quite right, it can help to have someone to talk to sometimes. Someone who will not judge you, but will listen to you with respect and treat what you tell them as private. (Although if a "child protection" issue is identified, I am bound by law to follow government guidelines).

If you have a concern about your child, whether that's emotionally or socially or regarding your child's education, you can ask for a referral to be made.

The school may also request a referral for a child.

A referral form will be completed and discussed with you.

If you give your consent, the Home School Link Worker will meet with you at a location and time to suit you.

Together we will discuss the issues and work out the best solutions and ways forward. I will try at all times to support you and to support your child.

And I will always remember that the child is the most important person, and his or her welfare, safety and happiness is the priority.

We will try and make sure that your child enjoys coming to school, to get the best out of what the school has to offer and is

happy participant in all of the school activities.

If necessary, we will obtain other help from outside agencies.

I will stay in touch with you for as long as you need and want the support. It might be a short-term problem, easily solved, or you may need support for a longer period. Your needs and wants will be taken into account too.

Kate Stratford
Home School Link Worker
St Joseph's Primary School

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