

## What if I don't want my child to see a Listener?

If, after talking about the concerns, you decide you don't want your child to be seen, we will respect your wishes.

No child will be seen by a Listener without their and their parent's/ carer's agreement.



*Our Listening Matters Room*

## Can a child ask to be seen?

Yes. They will be able to ask for a short time with the listener. Many children like to be able to use a system like this to deal with

day to day worries in school, where they may be seen briefly on one or two occasions

We will assume that parents will be happy for us to introduce this system of self-referral in school, **without seeking further permission.**

If you do not want your child to be able to use this service, or you have concerns about it please contact Mrs Binks.

If a child's concerns are such that we think they need to see the Listener for a longer time, we will talk to parents/carers to gain their agreement.

# Listening Matters



**Listening Matters is a service that we offer in our school to all our**

We believe that listening does matter to all of us, adults and children alike:

- When we are worried about something, like falling out with a friend, or if we can't manage our work.
- When we are unhappy. For example, if we think no one likes us.
- When we have something on our mind, like being scared of someone or something.

## Why our school offers Listening Matters

### We know that children learn best when they

- Feel good about themselves.
- Are confident in their relationships with other children.
- Are comfortable in their relationships with adults.
- Are happy in school.

### For lots of reasons some children don't feel like this...

- They may be troubled.
- They may have had an argument with a friend and be upset.
- They may be worried about something at home, or about someone in the family.
- They may be so worried and upset that they find it hard to concentrate in school.

*We know from our experience that children are affected just like adults by things like these in their lives, and that giving them support at the right time can make a big difference.*

### How does Listening Matters work?

In our school there are five people who organise this work; these are **Miss Threadkell and Mrs Kerton at Church Street (Infants) and Miss Wigham, Mrs Byatt and Mrs Carr at Moor Lane (Juniors).**

**Annie Docherty** is the Listening Matters Co-ordinator.

If you are concerned about your child and would like him or her to spend some time with Miss Threadkell, Mrs Kerton, Miss Wigham, Mrs Carr or Mrs Byatt, ask to have a word with Mrs Binks or one of the Listeners themselves

If a teacher thinks it would be helpful for a child to be seen by a Listener they will...

\*Talk to the Listening Matters Co-ordinator, Mrs Docherty and the Listeners to share some information about their concerns.

\*The parent/carer will be asked their point of view and a decision will then be made whether the child should be seen by a Listener. Permission is also obtained from the child.



*Children are able to express themselves using a wide range of resources*