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| |  | | --- | | What is ELSA?  ELSAs (Emotional literacy Support Assistants) are trained and regularly supervised by the Educational Psychologists in your Local education authority. An ELSA is a warm and caring person who wants to help your child feel happy in school and to reach their potential educationally. Their aim is to remove the barriers to learning and to have happy children in school and at home.  What can ELSA’s help with?  ELSA works with and alongside nurture and like nurture can help with:   * Loss and bereavement * Self-esteem * Social skills * Emotions * Friendship issues * Relationships * Anger management * Behaviour * Anxiety * Bullying * Conflict * Relaxation techniques   The Nurture & ELSA sessions are planned very carefully for your child. The session consists of several parts, these include social and emotional check-ins where your child can talk about feelings, a main activity where your child will be given a target to work on i.e. I can tell you my strengths – where a child is encouraged to talk about what they are good at, this is reinforced by the activity they are completing cooking, gardening, circle of friends, Lego therapy. They also may be taught relaxation techniques to help them with in the classroom setting.  If you have any questions, please contact Mrs Adams of Mrs Alcock via the school office.  Telephone 01782 917640  Email anna.adams@stgg.org.uk/emma.alcock@stgg.org.uk | | |  |  | | --- | --- | |  |  | | |  |  | |  | | --- | | The Hive  Nurture Group  & ELSA  See related image detail St. Giles’ & St. George’s Academy | | |  | | --- | |  | | | St. Giles’ & St. George’s Academy | |

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| What is the purpose of a Nurture Group?    Our Nurture Group is a small class. The children are carefully brought together to ensure a balanced and functional group. The Nurture Group continues the ethos of an already nurturing environment within St. Giles’ & St. George’s and provides inclusion for all children promoting Personal, Social & Health Education. Children are supported within The Hive to improve their emotional well-being, self-esteem and have a sense of belonging to the school community. We provide a structured routine with clear boundaries so the children feel safe and secure. The Hive is a place of learning.  We follow the six principles of the Nurture Network these are:  1. Children’s learning is understood developmentally (stage not age)  2. The classroom/school offers a safe base  3. Nurture is important for the development of self-esteem  4. Language is understood as a vital means of communication  5. All behaviour is communication  6. Transitions are significant in the lives of children    Reasons children might attend a Nurture Group:  • Low self-esteem  • They find it hard to listen to others or join in  • Family illness or break up  • Bereavement  • They find it hard to share and take turns  • They find it hard to settle into class  • Friendship difficulties - keeping/making friends  • They find it hard to accept losing a game  • They may be quiet, shy and withdrawn |  |  | How will The Hive help your child?  Children follow a structure and routine that is clear to both staff and children which includes group listening and speaking, work tasks, usually from their teacher, individual and shared playing and social skills.  The group runs on consistency, positive reinforcement and praise.    The Hive will help to boost confidence and self-esteem and provide children with extra skills to improve social skills and independence for example:  • To engage  • To settle  • To listen  • To concentrate  • To share and take turns  • To accept losing a game  • To build friendship with their classmates  • Gives opportunities to talk about and understand their feelings  • To work on curriculum based activities from their classrooms  • To experience and practice the development of positive relationships    These sessions are designed to help children manage situations and increase their skills to become more successful learners.  How long will my child attend The Hive?  The Hive runs every afternoon. A child may attend once a week for 1-4 terms. However, we ensure that children do not miss special assemblies, guests in school, outings or any special events that the rest of their class are taking part in. The Hive team plan closely with the class teachers.  Are parents/carers involved?  Yes, parents/carers can come and chat with the Hive staff with regard to their child. Occasionally special events will be run for parents to come and see what their child does e.g.; share in toast time or story time. |
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