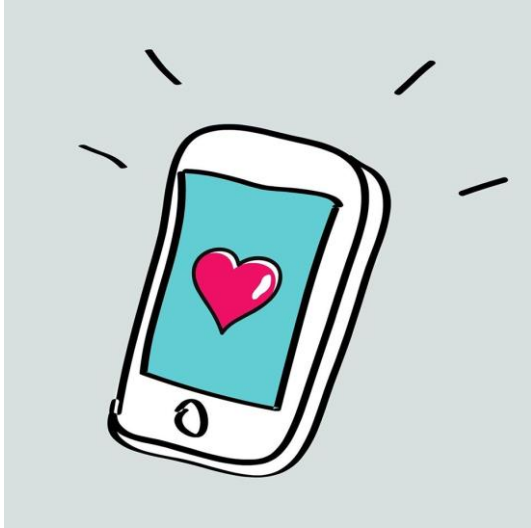


Dorset Council helpline for parents and carers



In April we launched our helpline for parents and carers who are concerned about their child or young person's emotional health, wellbeing or behaviour during the coronavirus pandemic. The helpline offers 30 minute telephone consultations from Educational Psychologists from Dorset's Educational Psychology team, and conversations are confidential unless there is risk of harm to a child, young person or someone else.

Since the launch, we have supported 72 parents and carers.

Common questions received to the helpline have been about: how to manage a child's distress caused by the lockdown or the pandemic; difficulties between siblings; supporting existing special educational or mental health needs, disability or behavioural challenges made harder through lockdown; managing schoolwork at home and many other topics.

We will continue to offer up to 40 consultations per week, Monday to Friday from 9am to 4.45pm, until the end of the Summer Term 2020 when the service will be reviewed.

To book an appointment, call 01305 228300 and an Educational Psychologist will call you back at your appointment time.