

## Early Intervention Family Worker Newsletter 22nd Feb 2021

**Early intervention Family Workers** support parents with: challenging or worrying behaviour : tantrums, meltdowns, anxiety, self-esteem, bedtime problems, sibling rivalry etc  
Support is currently available virtually or by phone.

**Your schools EIFW is Jane Rogers**  
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### Parenting Top Tip

#### Do you have a strong willed child?

I lost count ages ago of the number of parents I have worked with who describe their child as 'strong willed' and I always encourage them to flip it and look at the positives.

A strong willed child knows their own mind, they are not afraid to give their opinions, they are independent and will not allow themselves to be trodden on or put down. All fine qualities indeed.

But I know the reality of living with a strong willed child can look like: daily battles, constant arguments and a child who never seems to listen or do as they are asked to, and who always has to have the last word.

The best advice I think I can give to any parent of a child like this, is to take their temperament into account. You can't go into battle with your child every day, that's not good for anyone.

Learn to really listen to them, acknowledge their feelings, give choices and allow some negotiation wherever you can. And spend time with them, just be together, do fun stuff and get to know what makes them tick.

One Mum I know said things improved dramatically between her and her son once she stopped trying to impose her will all the time.

And don't forget, children don't always behave or express themselves in very mature ways. They are still learning; they are still children.

### Activity Ideas

Here's a short film to get you and your children talking about how appearances may be deceptive, stop it half way through and talk about why the boy might be behaving in the way he is, then watch the rest.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=3XA0bB79oGc>

Does your child have, or potentially have, an additional need or disability? **Pinpoint** ([www.pinpoint-cambs.org.uk](http://www.pinpoint-cambs.org.uk)) have lots of information, advice and tips. For Cambridgeshire's Local Offer go to [www.cambridgeshire.gov.uk/residents/children-and-families/local-offer](http://www.cambridgeshire.gov.uk/residents/children-and-families/local-offer)

