

# Update on Government Policy on Children and Young People's Mental Health

SCHOOLS NorthEast Healthy MindED Conference 2018

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Department  
for Education

# Green Paper core proposals

1. We will **incentivise every school and college to identify a Designated Senior Lead for Mental Health** to oversee the approach to mental health and wellbeing. All children and young people's mental health services should identify a link for schools and colleges. This link will provide rapid advice, consultation and signposting.
2. We will **fund new Mental Health Support Teams**, supervised by NHS children and young people's mental health staff, to provide specific extra capacity for early intervention and ongoing help. Their work will be managed jointly by schools, colleges and the NHS. These teams will be **linked to groups of primary and secondary schools and to colleges**, providing interventions to support those with mild to moderate needs and supporting the promotion of good mental health and wellbeing.
3. We will **trial a four week waiting time for access to specialist NHS children and young people's mental health services**. This builds on the expansion of specialist NHS services already underway.



# Consultation

- More than 2500 responses- online and written. Plus round table events and consultation events with young people.
- Aim to publish our response before the summer along with details of next steps – in particular identifying trailblazer areas, so they can be up and running next year.

## Issues raised

- Speed of delivery
- Complex delivery environment
- Nature and training of new mental health support team staff
- Effect on other services – must not displace
- Support for children and young people not in school/college
- Role of Designated Senior Leads- flexibility vs requirement
- Training of Designated Senior leads – needs to be substantial
- Avoiding perverse incentives of waiting time targets
- Proposals need to be part of a wider approach to tackling mental health



# Other action – health/cross-Government

## **Mental Health services transformation**

- NHS England are committed to delivering the vision set out in *Future in Mind* – as confirmed by their Five-Year Forward View.
- For children and young people’s mental health support, this is supported an additional £1.4bn to NHS England, which includes £150m for eating disorders and £75m for perinatal mental health services, from 2015-16 – 2019-20.
- Last year saw a 20% increase on Clinical Commissioning Group spend for CYP mental health, rising from £516 million in 2015/16 to £619 million in 2016/17.
- Spend to support transformation – through local transformation plans, move towards THRIVE-model commissioning.
- Earlier this month NHS England committed to national perinatal mental health support nationally.

## **Other national initiatives**

- Internet Safety Strategy
- New Loneliness minister
- Childhood Obesity Plan – increasing activity has wider benefits
- Troubled Families programme
- Work on family breakdown



# Other action - education

## **PM's speech January 2017**

- Continued roll out of CYPMHS-school/college link pilot
- Peer support pilots
- RCTs of approaches to promote good mental wellbeing in schools
- Staff training in mental health awareness being extended to primary schools

## **School policies/whole school approaches**

- Updating Mental Health and Behaviour Guidance
- Reviewing the existing requirements on schools for publishing policies and information for parents and carers – should these requirements be updated to ensure they properly reflect school approach to mental health?
- Engaging experts on how schools can measure impact of support for wellbeing – involving Ofsted in the run-up to their framework review
- Looking at the accountability burden on schools

## **Curriculum**

- National review of PSHE, relationships and sex education in secondary schools, and relationships education in primary schools includes a specific focus on how mental health and wellbeing can support healthy relationships and how best to secure good quality teaching for all pupils through PSHE

## **Transition**

- New national strategic partnership with key stakeholders focused on improving the mental health of 16-25 year olds by encouraging more coordinated action, experimentation and robust evaluation.

## **Vulnerable groups/disadvantage**

- Looked after children assessment pilots
- Exclusions review
- Opportunity areas



# Questions

