

## *Supporting the Mental Health of Children and Young People.*

In 2017, the Government published the Green Paper for Transforming Children and Young Peoples Mental Health, which identified proposals for the expansion of mental health support for children, and young people.

Consequently to a 13-week public consultation, the Response to the Children and Young Peoples Mental Health Green Paper was issued. This was formulated on the responses of 2,700 individuals and highlighted the responsibility of two main commitments:

- Identifying new mental health support teams to develop models of early intervention and support risk factors of mental health including exam stress, anxiety, as well as providing help to staff within educational provisions. The Mental Health Support Teams will act as a link with young people's mental health services and local children and supervised by NHS staff.
- Providing a four-week waiting time to access support.

Within England, 25 areas have been selected to pilot the mental health support teams, Doncaster and Rotherham being one of those joint areas. Through the pilot, it will be understood how helpful the running of the project is and exactly what is helpful and what can be developed further. Staff from CCG Doncaster and Rotherham including employees from RDASH, Clinical Psychologists, CAMHS Outreach team will be supporting the project. Staff from Doncaster Council including the Educational Psychology Service, Public Health, and educational outreach services including BOSS and ASCETS will be heavily involved.

Working with schools to develop a 'whole school approach' will provide links between NHS treatment of mental health in children and young people to educational intervention to meeting SEMH needs in schools, as stated in the SEN Code of Practice 2014.

The Mental Health Support Teams (MHST) consists of Educational Mental Health Practitioners (EMHP) will be managed by a Clinical Lead. The MHST will look at developing children and young people's emotional resilience, support within meetings, support staff members within educational provisions and also support existing resources. The EMHP are currently receiving training to be committed to supporting the mental health for individuals with the vision to begin applying this in practice from later this year.

Within Doncaster, 41 education establishments have been chosen to take part in the pilot of the project. This consists of primary schools, secondary schools, alternative provision, colleges and elective home educated. The establishments that were chosen were based on locality to provide an ideal representation of Doncaster.

Currently within these 41 education establishments, a range of focus groups are being run to identify the most effective way to develop the service and the Mental Health Support Teams from the students perspective. This is in collaboration with Rotherham who are also doing the same. Once the focus groups are completed, the feedback will be collated to produce a direction forward in supporting the development of resources and support.

Below are a few photos and descriptions of the focus groups being run so far within Doncaster in collaboration with a range of services.

**NHS Doncaster CCG** @doncasterccg · 19h  
Great morning with year 12 students at @ncdoncaster. Some great ideas, thoughts and views that will feed into the development of mental health support teams in schools, academies & colleges. Great to have 2 of our @rdash\_nhs Educational #MentalHealth practitioners with us too!



**NHS Doncaster CCG** @doncasterccg · Mar 25  
Great first session this morning with students at Thorne Academy discussing what's important to them to create #mentalhealth support teams in schools and academies. Invaluable feedback and insight 🙌 @NHSEngland @SYBhealthcare @rdash\_nhs @MyDoncaster



If you would like to find out any further information regarding the development of this project access NHS Doncaster CCG on twitter, stay tuned in to the local offer and look for new published articles from NHS England.

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