

WELL-BEING FOR EDUCATION RETURN



National Initiative

In recognition of the likely challenges some children may face on returning to education the Department for Education, Department of Health and Social Care, Health Education England, NHS England and Public Health England announced in early August 2020 plans to provide additional funding and resources to meet this need. The additional resources help local areas to train and support education settings to respond to the wellbeing and mental health needs of pupils and students (aged 5-18) in response to Covid-19. As well as strengthening and building wellbeing and resilience, the initiative aims to prevent the onset of mental health problems and ensure those with pre-existing or emerging difficulties access the right support.

A national training programme has been developed to support the project which aims to:

- Increase knowledge of the potential mental health and wellbeing impact of Covid-19 on staff, children and young people, and parents and carers
- Build understanding of evidence-based and straightforward responses and resources to support recovery
- Develop knowledge to introduce school and college staff to evidence-based and straightforward resources and structures for dissemination to children and young people and parents and carers
- Raise awareness of specialist and wider support services (statutory and independent) and when and how education professionals might signpost or refer children and young people, staff and/or parents and carers to them

The training should be accessed by the following staff in, or linked to, primary and secondary schools, Further Education (FE) colleges, pupil referral units and special schools: -

- Designated Safeguarding Leads (DSL)
- Pastoral Support Staff
- SENCO (s)
- Mental Health Leads
- Public Health Nurses (School Nurses)

Bolton Response

In Bolton we have been working with the CCG, our Emotional Health and Well-being Leads and our providers to develop a local response to the national initiative. We are now at the stage of finalising the training pack and confirming dates to deliver the sessions. We will be running six, two-hour sessions via Microsoft Teams and aim to have them all delivered by the end of November 2020.

In the next few weeks we will be contacting headteachers and DSL's in all schools and FE colleges to request they identify and book their relevant staff onto one of the sessions. We will also be requesting that all relevant staff in health also attend one session. With this in mind, headteachers, in discussion with DSL's should begin to identify who in their setting needs to attend.

Once the sessions are complete, we will be contacting delegates to evaluate the impact of the training and identify any further needs.

If you have any queries about the project or the training please contact Shona Green, BSCP Officer:

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Telephone 01204 337964

For further details about the initiative go to:

<https://www.gov.uk/government/news/8m-programme-to-boost-pupil-and-teacher-wellbeing>