



Trailblazer Bulletin (November 2019) – For information and circulation

Welcome, London colleagues...

Thank you for your interest in the Children and Young People's Mental Health Green Paper Programme (CYPMH GP programme) for London.

The Department for Education and Department of Health and Social Care jointly published "Transforming Children and Young People's Mental Health: A Green Paper" in 2017, and a subsequent consultation response in 2018, setting out the government's commitments to improve mental health support in and around schools and colleges.

These include:

- Funding for **new Mental Health Support Teams (MHSTs)**, to provide extra capacity for early intervention and ongoing help within a school and college setting.
- Encouraging schools and colleges to identify a **senior mental health lead**, with a new offer of training (from June 2020 subject to contract award) to help leads and staff to deliver whole school and college approaches to promoting better mental health.
- **Mental Health Awareness Training** for a member of staff from all state-funded secondary schools in England by March 2020.
- National roll out of the Mental Health Services and School/College **Link Programme training** from Autumn 2019, supporting stronger partnerships between schools and colleges and local specialist NHS children and young people's mental health services (CYPMHS).
- Piloting a four-week waiting time for access to specialist NHS children and young people's mental health services.

Healthy London Partnership, in collaboration with the Department for Education, NHS England and NHS Improvement, has developed this bulletin to provide updates and information relevant to the programme, success stories and useful links.

Education Mental Health Practitioner blog

As we approach the first anniversary of the CYPMH GP programme's launch and the first cohort of Education Mental Health Practitioner (EMHP – you may know these colleagues as 'Emotional Wellbeing Practitioners', 'Wellbeing Practitioners', or similar) trainees complete their courses, we wanted to share reflections from an EMHP in the West London trailblazer area on their experiences delivering early interventions for children and young people with mild to moderate mental health issues in, and working with senior leads and other colleagues in, St Charles' Sixth Form College. You can access the EMHP blog [here](#).

London Trailblazer Workshop – October 2019

On Tuesday 1 October, Healthy London Partnership delivered a workshop on supporting the implementation of the Children and Young People's Mental Health Green Paper commitments in London Trailblazer areas and beyond. The workshop included presentations from the Department for Education's regional implementation and mental health and wellbeing policy teams, NHS England and Improvement's national policy and delivery team and leads from the seven 2018-19 MHST Trailblazers (Bromley, Camden, Haringey, Hounslow, South West London, Tower Hamlets and West London). The event saw approximately 90 attendees from across partnership organisations – including health, education, local authorities and voluntary sectors – come together to share best practice, challenges and opportunities and to discuss and inform future work, communications and

engagement for the programme moving forward. Thank you to all of those who presented – particularly the London Trailblazer leads – and participated. More details and slides from the day are available [here](#).

Education Updates and FAQs

The Department for Education has established a regional implementation team to support the education sector to implement the proposals outlined in the Transforming Children and Young People's Mental Health Provision Green Paper and the subsequent Government commitments – particularly to establish new MHSTs and to incentivise and train senior mental health leads in schools and colleges. Roisin Clarke is the Regional Implementation Lead and Ellie Daniel is the Deputy Regional Lead for London. At a regional level we work in partnership with NHS England, Healthy London Partnership and Health Education England – as well as wider education, health, local authority and voluntary and community sector partners - to support implementation of this programme across the capital. At a local level, we support delivery by working with MHST Clinical Commissioning Group and project leads and teams, school and college leads and the wider school and college community.

A key part of our work **involves directly engaging with school and college professionals** to build understanding of successes, challenges, risks and issues; provide targeted support and share resources and ensure schools and college staff, children and young people and their parents and carers can shape, inform and benefit from the programme. This support offer can involve visits to your school or college, school or college network/forum/cluster meetings, speaking at local launch/engagement/leadership and learning events and workshops and sharing resources via email and webinars.

With this in mind, we have attached an **information pack for schools and colleges** that have recently signed up to work with MHSTs – including those of you who have kindly agreed to offer EMHP training placements. This sets out key information about the programme, including what you can expect, how you can prepare and what wider support and resources are available to support you in establishing and embedding your whole school or college approach to mental health and wellbeing. We expect that this will be of particular use for those schools and colleges coming on board in 2019-20, but it may also prove helpful for schools and colleges who have started working with the 2018-19 MHSTs in recent months.

In addition to this, London trailblazer workshop attendees raised several queries with the Department for Education's regional leads for London, including on the **schools and colleges baseline survey, plans for evaluation and senior mental health lead and Link Programme training**. The DfE regional leads followed up with national DfE policy colleagues after the workshop and **you can find the latest updates and responses [here](#)** (under 'reading and resources'). As this programme is still very much in a 'test and learn' phase and evolving rapidly, it has taken DfE leads longer than anticipated to respond substantively, for which we apologise. We continue to follow up on various other queries raised (which includes school/college staff workload and wellbeing, consent, culture and information sharing, refining our guidance and support for MHST and school/college leads and escalation, recognising school/college leads' contribution to and leadership on MHST implementation and the whole school/college approach, issue resolution and feedback processes) and will update you on further developments as soon as possible.

Finally, to support you in completing an **audit of current mental health support in your school or college**, we have selected a number of questions from the baseline questionnaire that was completed by 2018-19 MHST schools and colleges earlier in the year. You may wish to use or adapt some or all of these questions to support your audit. The questions concern the availability of direct mental health support for pupils and students with a mental health need and wider mental health support. Having an audit of provision ready to discuss with your MHST service lead and your school or college senior leadership team to help identify where there are gaps that might be filled by the MHSTs core functions. **You can access the Self-Assessment Questionnaire [here](#).**

We hope that you find these resources helpful and would welcome any feedback you might have, or on any additional information or resources you feel you might need. You can contact us directly via MHGP.Delivery@education.gov.uk, or via the NHS Futures Collaboration Platform (you can sign up by emailing england.cyp-mentalhealth@nhs.net to request access to: the **Collaborative Working in Education Settings**, and; the **School and College Information and Resources** areas. The platform contains key resources and guidance and provides a space for colleagues involved in CYPMH Green Paper delivery to collaborate and share practice. Please mention that you work in London when you sign up, so the team can direct you appropriately.

Many thanks for your support and input to those of you who have been involved from the beginning and a warm welcome to those of you coming on board - and we look forward to speaking to or meeting you soon.

Roisin Clarke, Regional Implementation Lead and Ellie Daniel, Deputy Regional Lead for London, Department for Education

Next steps

Healthy London Partnership, the Department for Education and NHS England & Improvement are currently working on establishing a forum for London EMHP leads and supervisors, with the intention to host the first meeting in February 2020. We are also developing arrangements for the **next London trailblazer workshop in March 2020** (date to be confirmed). Responding to feedback from the last two workshops, we are looking to provide an even stronger education focus by including speakers from Ofsted and senior mental health leads and other school or college staff involved in the programme (Headteachers and Deputy Headteachers, pastoral/ mental health leads, governors, trustees, SENCOs and Education Psychologists). We would also like to hear more from MHST project leads and managers, supervisors, EMHPs and wider mental health practitioners on their experiences, successes and challenges in implementing the CYPMH GP programme in London. In the spirit of co-production central to this programme, we are also considering how best to involve children and young people and their parents and carers in these events.

If you are interested in being involved, or know someone who might be, please do get in touch via hlp.cyp-programme@nhs.net.

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With thanks