

Emotional Wellbeing and Mental Health Update for Enfield Schools and Colleges

July 2021

For more information email eps-sews@enfield.gov.uk

www.enfield.gov.uk

Introduction

There have been several recent announcements from the Department for Education (DfE) in relation to Mental Health and Wellbeing Support in Schools and Colleges.

Go to: [Mental Health and Wellbeing Support in Schools and Colleges](#)

In Enfield, there is a close working partnership between providers across Health, Education, Social Care, the Voluntary Sector, our schools and settings and local parent forums. Together we are developing and supporting ongoing developments which includes those highlighted in this DfE document and beyond and are included in our strategic planning and development of the mental health in schools offer.

We have put together a summary of the DfE initiatives and how Enfield is involved with these to date. We have also included additional key partnership developments for Enfield schools this year in relation to emotional wellbeing and mental health.

Relating to the Department for Education announcements:

1. Whole School Approach to Mental Health and Wellbeing
2. Senior Mental Health Leads Training
3. Wellbeing for Education Recovery
4. The Link Programme
5. Relationships, Health and Sex Education (RHSE) Training
6. Mental Health Support Teams (MHSTS)
7. Psychological First Aid Training
8. Mental Health and Wellbeing Resources

Additional key partnership developments for Enfield

9. Enfield Trauma Informed Practice in Schools (E-TIPS)
10. Mental Health Leads Network
11. Enfield Restraint Reduction Network
12. Emotionally Based School Avoidance (or Non-Attendance)
13. Nurture Groups

Working in partnership with schools to develop the Enfield offer:

We are keen to ensure that any development aligns closely the emerging needs of our school and college communities. We listen to schools and settings in a variety of formal and informal ways to inform any new developments, e.g. the Headteacher rep meeting with the Council, School reps at Enfield Thrive Together Network Meeting, SENCO and DSL for Safeguarding Networks etc.

To complement this, we want to ask schools and colleges about their needs through the [Enfield Health and Wellbeing Schools Survey \(2021-22\)](#). We would be grateful if every school can respond to this to support future planning and developments.

Many thanks



Suzy Francis
Principal Educational Psychologist
Strategic Lead for Children's Emotional Wellbeing and Mental Health

1. Whole School Approach to Mental Health and Wellbeing

What is this?

Taking a coordinated and evidence-informed approach to mental health and wellbeing in schools and colleges leads to improved pupil and student emotional health and wellbeing which can help readiness to learn.

The [whole school or college approach](#), published by Public Health England (PHE), defines 8 pillars that align with good mental health and wellbeing practice.



Promoting children and young people's emotional health and wellbeing:
A whole school and college approach. Public Health England, 2015

The DfE has provided additional guidance, support and initiatives that sit underneath each of the 8 pillars – the link is [here](#) to see all of the DfE recommended guidance and support.

What is happening in Enfield?

Building on the success of the Enfield version of the Sandwell Whole-School Wellbeing Chartermark for schools, the Educational Psychology Service is offering a locally adapted whole-school wellbeing audit and implementation support.

The audit process supports educational settings to ask pupils, families and staff about their experiences of school, in relation to the eight dimensions of wellbeing set out by Public Health England in The [Whole School or College Approach document](#).

The EPS can provide support for schools to gather their data, develop and implement a whole-school wellbeing action plan based on the strengths and needs identified by members of the school community. There may be a cost to schools for the practical support if required (e.g. run the focus groups, data collection and data analysis).

The EPS has been working in partnership with the Mental Health Support Teams to offer this audit process to MHST schools.

Contact eps-sews@enfield.gov.uk for further information.

2. Senior Mental Health Leads Training

What is this?

On 10 May, the government announced £9.5m to train up to 7,800 senior mental health leads in schools this financial year, as part of their commitment to offer training to all state schools by 2025.

The training is targeted towards giving leads the knowledge and skills to develop a whole school or college approach to mental wellbeing in your setting and is closely aligned with [Public Health England's \(PHE\) promoting children and young people's emotional health and wellbeing](#).

From September 2021, school and college **can apply for a grant** for training to help their senior mental health leads develop or introduce a whole school or college approach to mental health and wellbeing in their setting.

What is a senior lead role?

A strategic leadership role in a school or college often a headteacher, deputy head, pastoral lead, SENCO or teacher.

They **are not** a mental health professional and should never be expected to diagnose mental health conditions or deliver interventions.

How many schools have a senior mental health lead?

Nationally more than 80% of settings now have a mental health lead. In Enfield we know that most schools also have a mental health lead and there remains variation in their role and the other responsibilities they may hold.

Who can access the training?

Schools and colleges can decide who accesses the training. It can be an existing mental health lead or another member of the senior leadership team. It is important though, that any individual who does access the training, has the authority, capacity and support to influence and lead strategic change within the setting.

What is the grant?

The grant will be up to around £1,200 – exact amount to be confirmed in the autumn term 2021. The grant will pay for the cost of the training and provide supply cover to enable the leads to access the training.

This grant will be offered to **a third of all state schools and colleges** within the first financial year of the programme and a wait list will be created and the DfE will confirm future funding in the spring term 2022.

How training will be delivered?

The DfE will have list of approved training providers. When schools apply for the grant, they will be asked about their training needs and learning preferences to help schools identify training that meets their individual needs. The application process has just opened.

What's happening in Enfield?

Enfield EPS is designing a relevant training offer to be submitted for DfE approval. It aims to address all key learning objectives and be localised to Enfield context.

Lead contact suzy.francis@enfield.gov.uk

3. Wellbeing for Education Recovery

What is it?

The Wellbeing for Education Return programme was launched in August 2020. DfE has invested a further £7m in developing the programme called Wellbeing for Education Recovery and funds local authorities to provide additional support to schools and colleges, including:

- helping with navigation of existing provision to make the best use of the recovery and pupil premium funding.
- continuing to deliver wellbeing for education return training, on issues such as bereavement and loss, understanding anxiety and low mood, and actions for building resilience and recovery.
- providing ongoing support and advice supporting schools and colleges to assess their needs and provision.

What's happening in Enfield?

Enfield was involved in the Wellbeing for Education Return programme and led by the EPS, the grant was used to deliver:

- A multi-agency professional learning programme for school staff: 'Promoting Resilience and Recovery with our School Communities.' [Link to brochure](#)
- Support for headteachers and senior leaders in schools.
- Support for school staff.
- Support for parents and carers via the [EPS Telephone Support Line](#) and workshops through Our Voice Parent/Carer Forum.

Enfield are planning the use the Wellbeing for Education Recovery grant in partnership with our schools and colleges to meet their developing needs. A survey is being sent out and we are enquiring about school needs through the relevant forums, such as Designated Safeguarding Lead Network.

The EPS Telephone Support line will continue until March 2022.

Lead contact: suzy.francis@enfield.gov.uk



Enfield Psychology Service

Telephone support line for parents and carers

In response to COVID-19, Enfield EP Service is offering Enfield parents and carers the opportunity to speak to an Educational Psychologist (EP) about a concern or issue they may have in relation to their child.

Educational Psychologists are professional concerned with the development, learning and social and emotional wellbeing of children and young people. Issues we can help you to think about include:

- Learning
- Emotions (e.g. fears and worries, low mood, anger)
- Difficulties at school and home
- Parenting
- Homework working
- Signposting to appropriate services

Calls can be booked between 9.30am and 4.30pm Monday to Friday.

If you have internet access, please fill in the online form later to request a phone call.

If you don't have access to the internet, please call us to request a phone call.

0208 379 2000

We will do our best to respond to your request within three working days.

A telephone consultation is not a formal referral to our service.

For more information email eps-services@enfield.gov.uk

www.enfield.gov.uk

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4. The Link Programme

What is it?

The government has commissioned the Anna Freud Link Programme to deliver to **50 Local Areas** for 2021/22.

The aim is to bring together education and mental health professionals in each local area so that more children and young people can get the help and support they need, when they need it. This programme:

- brings together local partners who can support children and young people's mental health and wellbeing.
- offers structured sessions to identify priorities and agree goals to promote and support good mental health and wellbeing.
- supports the locality to develop a tailored action plan that will feed into strategic planning.
- delivers tailored support sessions focussed on improving joint working between education and mental health professionals, based on the needs assessment and goals.
- offers a progress review and support at three and six months to help embed change locally.

For more information to [The Link Programme](#).

What's happening in Enfield?

All key partners across Enfield Council, Enfield CAMHS and the North Central London Clinical Commissioning Group (Enfield) have agreed that it would be helpful for Enfield to take part in the link programme and recently submitted an expression of interest with a preference for Wave 2 in January 2022.

We are delighted to have been accepted onto this programme and will start our planning with Anna Freud in the next few weeks. More updates will follow.

Lead contact: suzy.francis@enfield.gov.uk

5. Relationships Education, Relationships and Sex Education (RSE) and Health Education Training Resource

RSE is a new curriculum and schools have been statutorily required to begin teaching this by the start of summer term 2021.

Go to [RSE and Health Education Guidance](#)

What is the training resource?

It is aimed to help subject leads and school staff:

- get the content they need to teach young people about managing their mental health and wellbeing
- see examples of good practice
- access training resources and templates that can be customised

How to access the resource

Access the [Mental health and wellbeing training module](#).
Get further guidance on [Planning your RHSE curriculum](#).

What's happening in Enfield?

Regular online RSE training takes place in partnership with School & Early Years Improvement Service (SEYIS) and Public Health.

Face to face RSE training will resume in 2021 / 2022 academic year.

Termly RSHE forums are held for schools.

Lead contact sharon.davies@enfield.gov.uk

6. Mental Health Support Teams (MHSTs)

What are they?

MHSTs are available in certain areas of the UK and are set up as a pilot project funded by NHS England and Health Education England. Schools and colleges in participating MHST areas receive additional mental health and wellbeing support and extra capacity for early intervention and help for mild to moderate mental health issues. MHSTs are designed to support all educational settings but support is targeted in areas where there is greatest need.

What's happening in Enfield?

Enfield's Mental Health Support Teams (MHST) launched in October 2019 and is a collaborative project across the North Central London Clinical Commissioning Group (Enfield), Barnet Enfield and Haringey Mental Health Trust and Enfield Council, with governance held by a steering group that includes Health and Education partners and school representatives. The MHSTs are currently funded to reach 37 educational settings and provisions.

MHST are part of the broader offer of support in schools and would work in partnership to complement the team around the school/family or child/young person. This may involve joint partnership with an educational psychologist, the Enfield Advisory Service for Autism, SWERRL, Specialist CAMHS, the Speech and Language Therapy Service etc.

The MHST is commissioned to deliver three core functions:

Function	How this is delivered in Enfield Schools and settings
1. Evidence-based interventions for mild to moderate mental health and emotional wellbeing concerns.	<p>Employing Trainee Education Mental Health Practitioners (EMHPs) and supporting them to train and become qualified to deliver:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• direct work with CYP and families
2. Support to senior mental health leads in schools to develop a whole-school approach to mental health and wellbeing.	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Senior Mental Health Lead Network Meetings for involved schools.• Whole School Wellbeing Audit and Implementation Plan delivered by the EPs in the team and is based on Promoting children and young people's emotional health and wellbeing: A whole school and college approach (Public Health England, 2015) and the Sandwell Whole School Wellbeing Chartermark.• Psycho-education workshops and groups• Training, consultation and signposting support• Whole School Debates on Mental Health

<p>3. Timely advice and signposting to schools.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Senior Mental Health Lead Network Meetings with clusters of schools building understanding of national and local services and support available • Providing support for staff well-being in schools • Consultation to school staff. • Developing written and video/online resources for teachers, pupils and parents in the context of the pandemic • Development of the Local Offer. • Offer of half-termly, or more frequent, case consultations and school plans by MHST staff in Wave 1 schools and gradually rolling out to Wave 2
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Enfield MHST composition:

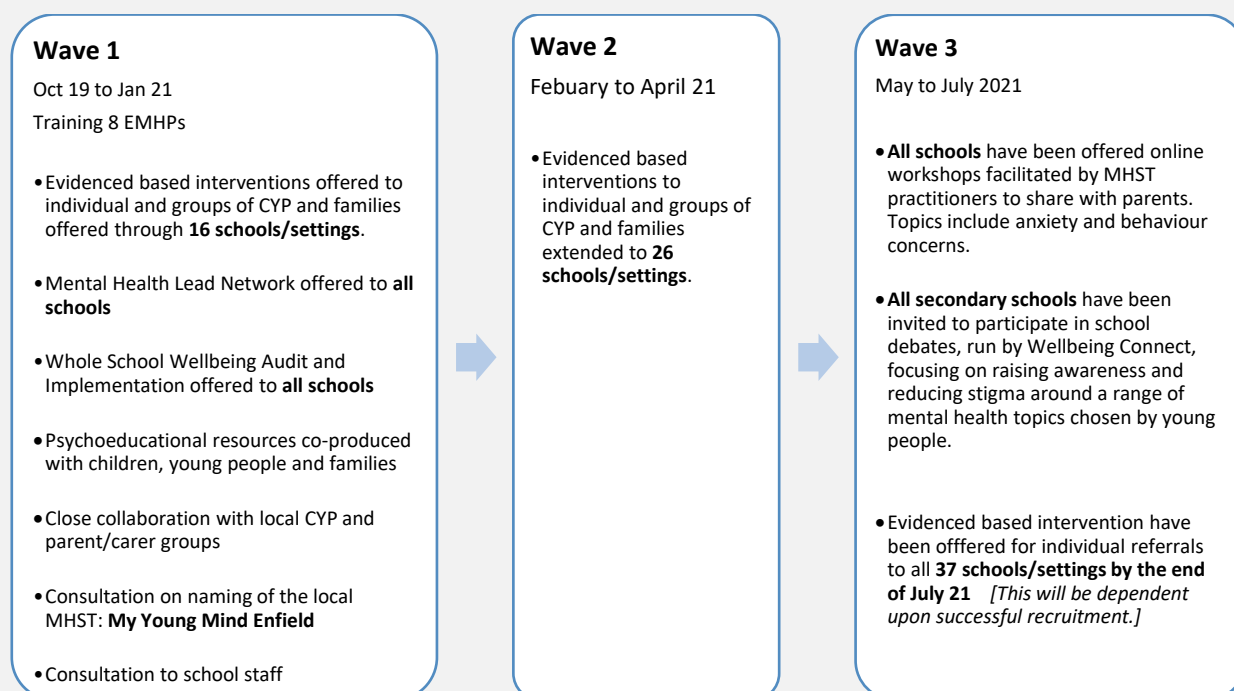
Post	FTE	Organisation/Service
Clinical Team Lead	1.0	CAMHS
Educational Psychologist	0.5	EPS
Senior Clinician/Supervisor	3.8*	CAMHS
Education Mental Health Practitioners	8.0	CAMHS
Children’s Well-Being Practitioner	2.0**	CAMHS
Assistant Educational Psychologist (ended 31 March 2021)	0.4	EPS
Admin	1.0	CAMHS

* 2.0 Recruitment in progress ** 1.0 Recruitment in progress

Voluntary Sector Partnership

Wellbeing Connect Service was additionally commissioned in 2021 by the CCG to invite **all secondary schools** to participate in school debates, focusing on raising awareness and reducing stigma around a range of mental health topics chosen by young people.

Roll Out:



Covid-19:

Like many services, the team developed a revised offer with placement schools for CYP and families, and to support its trainee EMHPs to meet their competencies and qualify in January 2021.

Educational Settings and Waves

There has been a delay in the roll out to schools due to the pandemic. The current timeline to increase the MHST offer to schools is as follows:

Setting	Wave 1 (October 2019 to January 2021)	Wave 2 (February to April 2021)	Wave 3 (May to July 2021)
Infant	Raglan Infants		
Junior	Raglan Juniors		
Primary	Wilbury Eversley Highfields St. Edmonds George Spicer St. Michael's Bush Hill Park Brimsgate Brettenham	Firs Farm Keys Meadow Suffolks Worcesters	Grange Park One Degree Academy Wolfson Hillel Woodpecker Hall
All Through	Edmonton County	Ark John Keats Academy Oasis Academy Hadley	

Secondary	St. Ann's Catholic Girls High School Enfield County School for Girls Oasis Academy Enfield	Heron Hall Winchmore	Aylward Academy Kingsmead Lea Valley
Special	West Lea	Russet House	Oaktree
FE college		The College of Enfield, Haringey and North East London	
Reaching CYP not in school			Alternative Provisions Electively Home Educated

Extension of pilot:

The MHST will be extended to at least 31st March 2022 with a plan to expand the offer to reach more educational settings in Enfield.

For Further information:

Contact Chantell Douglas (Team Manager) chantell.douglas@nhs.net

7. Psychological First Aid & Youth Mental Health First Aid Training

Psychological First Aid training

What is this?

Developed by Public Health England this is a **FREE** recorded online training for all school and college staff who help children and young people aged up to 25 years. Staff do not need any prior knowledge or experience to access this training.

The training provides:

- Resources and content to teach young people about managing their mental health and wellbeing.
- Provides good examples of good practice.
- Provides access to training resources and templates that schools can customise.

Time commitment: between 3 hours accessed over 3 weeks.

How to access the training: Go to [Psychological First Aid: Supporting Children and Young People](#).

Youth Mental Health First Aid training

What is this?

The programme is supported by the Mayor of London and funded through the Young Londoners Fund. Delivery is through Mental Health First Aid England. The aim of the programme is to have a mental health first aider in every education setting (primary, secondary and special educational needs schools, sixth form and colleges, and alternative education such as pupil referral units). Evidence suggests that the earlier a mental health issue is identified and treated, the quicker and more positive the recovery process is likely to be.

The course gives attendees:

- An in depth understanding of young people's mental health and factors that affect wellbeing.
- Practical skills to spot the triggers and signs of mental health issues.
- Confidence to reassure and support a young person in distress.
- Enhanced interpersonal skills such as non-judgemental listening.
- Knowledge to help a young person recover their health by guiding them to further support and engaging with parents, carers and external agencies.
- Ability to support a young person with a long term mental health issue or disability to thrive.
- Tools to look after your own mental wellbeing.

What's happening in Enfield?

During the summer term 2021, 31 staff from Enfield schools and Council services completed a 2-day blended YMHFA course and achieved certification.

For a list of other available courses please click here <https://mhfaengland.org/book-a-course/>

Enfield Lead: sharon.davies@enfield.gov.uk

8. Mental Health and Wellbeing Resources

There are a wealth of resources that the DfE has put together to help schools to:

- Find help and support in response to the emotional needs of staff as a result of COVID-19.
- Access advice on prioritising wellbeing and mental health.
- Signpost children and young people to appropriate support, help and advice.
- Provide children and young people with a list of resources so they can get support on a range of issues independently.

Download the [list of mental health and wellbeing resources](#)

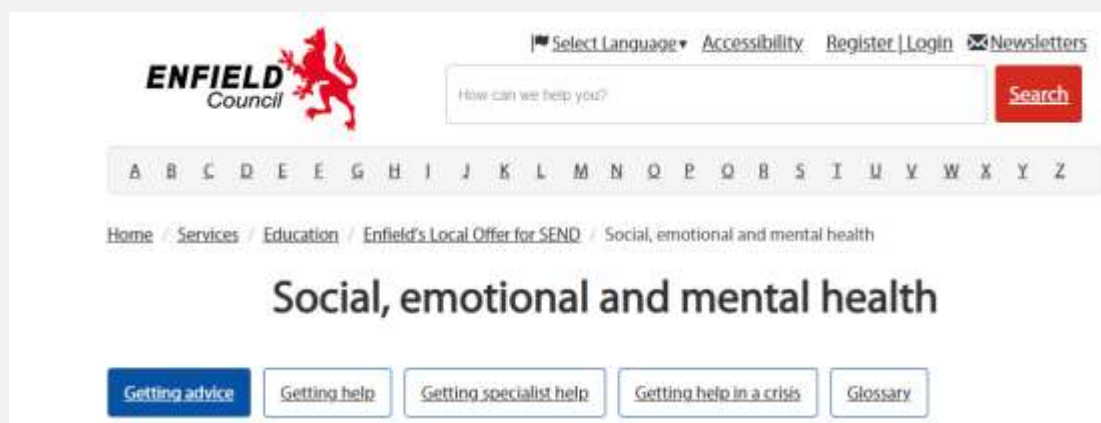
What is happening in Enfield?

Schools Traded Services Hub:

Various resources have been developed by Enfield Services, including the Educational Psychology Service, and have been shared with schools over the past year. These are available in the Enfield Thrives Together section on the [Schools Traded Services Hub](#)

Enfield Local Offer:

The Enfield Local Offer has a SEMH section providing information and links to local services that offer support for children, young people and their families which you can signpost children and young people to. This is routinely updated. Go to the [Enfield Local Offer \(SEMH\)](#)



The screenshot shows the Enfield Council website. At the top left is the Enfield Council logo, featuring a red lion rampant. To the right of the logo are links for 'Select Language', 'Accessibility', 'Register | Login', and 'Newsletters'. Below these is a search bar with the text 'How can we help you?' and a red 'Search' button. Underneath the search bar is a horizontal menu with letters A through Z. Below the menu is a breadcrumb trail: 'Home / Services / Education / Enfield's Local Offer for SEND / Social, emotional and mental health'. The main heading is 'Social, emotional and mental health'. At the bottom, there are five buttons: 'Getting advice' (blue), 'Getting help', 'Getting specialist help', 'Getting help in a crisis', and 'Glossary'.

Enfield Health and Wellbeing Offer Brochure 2021-22:

This information provides an update on broader Health and Wellbeing initiatives and services that are available in Enfield.

Lead contact: sarah.greaves@enfield.gov.uk

Enfield Children's Portal:

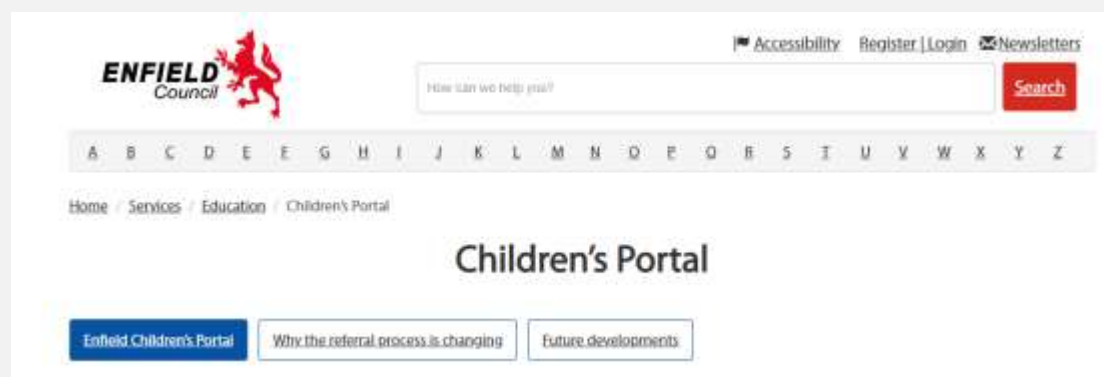
The [Children's Portal](#) allows schools to:

- Make a referral for child protection or family support.
- View all referrals in one place.
- Access information, advice and guidance.

Only one referral form is needed for children who need Early Help. The Early Help Team will decide which service is best placed to provide the support.

All referrals are submitted through the Children's Portal.

If there is a safeguarding referral that cannot wait, schools should call MASH on 020 8379 5555.



Contacts:

earlyhelp@enfield.gov.uk

childrensmash@enfield.gov.uk

9. Enfield - Trauma Informed Practice in Schools (E-TIPS)

Trauma informed practice ideas are not new to Enfield. For many years, there has been excellent work where services and school staff have recognised that challenging behaviour is a communication for unmet needs and they have been integrating trauma informed approaches, attachment theory and attuned care into their practice to support our most vulnerable children who need help to develop their skills to understand and manage their emotions.



Enfield Trauma Informed Practice in Schools (E-TIPS) is about everyone working in a trauma informed way and it is not just an approach when thinking about and supporting our most vulnerable children, it is a valuable approach when planning the routines of the school day, thinking about our school ethos and environments, delivering the curriculum, writing our policies, communicating with and supporting our children, our families, our staff and our whole community.

E-TIPS is a partnership programme and aims for our whole workforce to be trauma informed – we know that every interaction can be an intervention – it can be trauma reducing or trauma inducing.

We recognise the importance of the everydayness of trauma and traumatic events. Our aim is to create a culture where we have an effective response system that thinks about and works to understand how behaviour makes sense. We can then respond effectively to children and young people's needs and, over time, we can make a difference and improve their life chances.

E-TIPS initiative includes:

- Professional learning training sessions (bite size to 2 day training).
- Support for school-based E-TIPS Champions.
- Implementation support.
- Enfield-wide network meetings.

Enfield is working closely with Kati Taunt who is the consultant to the E-TIPS programme. Kati comes with over 25 years of clinical experience and currently runs her own training and consultancy business and private clinical practice. Go to Kati's website to find out more: www.trauma-informedpractice.co.uk

There is no cost to schools at the point of access for this support.

Lead contacts:

suzy.francis@enfield.gov.uk

emma.gore-langton@enfield.gov.uk

nigel.ellerby-jones@enfield.gov.uk

10. Enfield - Mental Health Leads Network

To support the developing role of the Mental Health Lead and complement any training that Senior Leads access, Enfield are setting up a **Mental Health Leads Network** that will be accessible by all schools and colleges.

Schools linked to the MHSTs current programme have been part of a network meeting in cluster arrangements.

This offer will be revised so that every senior mental health lead in every school can be included in the network. The aim of the network will be to:

- Provide a regular online network meeting
- Build awareness and implementation of the iThrive framework
- Share national, regional and local updates on mental health developments
- Build understanding of national, regional and local services
- Build supportive and robust links between Health and Education.
- Share resources and good practice
- Access peer support
- Provide a reflective space for group problem solving

Lead contacts:

suzy.francis@enfield.gov.uk

chantell.douglas@nhs.net

11. Enfield - Restraint Reduction Network

Careful consideration has been given to promoting a consistent Borough-wide commitment to restraint reduction across Enfield educational provisions.

A network group has been formed to help identify and deliver suitable approaches. This group is made up of lead professionals from a range of key schools and services, who will be best placed to instigate and support delivery of agreed training, protocols and monitoring measures.

It is recognised that the need for restraint (physical intervention) reduces when emphasis is given to strengthening a schools' capacity to effectively support pupils' wellbeing, emotional regulation and readiness for learning needs.

It is also understood that occasionally schools continue to need the means for safe physical intervention procedures, in order to fulfil a 'duty of care' and ensure a pupil's and other's safety is protected.

To support the dual commitment to 'restraint reduction', as well as to safe procedures for physical intervention, where this becomes absolutely necessary, members of the Network group have investigated and are supporting two strands of training.

Network members will monitor progress towards a restraint reduction commitment and will promote coherence and consistency in the approaches as they are applied across Enfield.

1. Enfield Special Schools, Disability Services and some Adult Services have collectively committed to **PRICE Training (Protecting Rights In a Caring Environment)**. This is a Restraint Reduction Network certificated training provider. Their training systems **support** organisations to respond **positively** to **behaviours** of concern, and ensures that organisations and individuals have the skills needed to keep themselves and those in their care safe.

PRICE Training has developed a system that is rooted in **trauma informed practice** and **positive behaviour support** that places human rights and the well-being of vulnerable people at the very heart of what we do.

2. Enfield Primary Behaviour Support Service, SWERRL Team has committed to developing a training package for mainstream schools, given the term **COSIE (Creating Optimally Safer & Inclusive Environments)**. These training packages incorporate:
 - First premise, **trauma informed practice**-based systems for preventative and regulatory responses.
 - **National Federation for Personal Safety (NFPS)** accredited content

COSIE Training provides a number of delivery options that are designed to promote the creation of safer school environments by –

- Understanding how **neuroscientific-based 'trauma informed' practice** benefits a whole school ethos and creates an increased sense of safety for all

-
- Promotes a response to challenging behaviour which **calms, diverts** and **de-escalates**
 - Developing **risk assessment and stress support planning procedures and practices** which support restraint reduction
 - Encouraging **restorative practices** in preference to sanctions and punishments
 - Highlighting the **legal, ethical and DfE guidance protocols** in relation to restraint reduction and safe physical intervention pertinent for schools
 - Teaching and assessing competence in biometrically-friendly **physical intervention techniques** to use as **a last resort** in situations of significant risk of harm, damage or disruption.
 - Offering training opportunities to attain certification of competency in these understandings and techniques, as well as courses to annually refresh the skills learnt.
 - Giving priority attention to a **staff self-care**

Lead contacts:

PRICE:

Louis Wells lwells11.308@oaktreeschool.org.uk

Georgina Kyriacou georgina.kyriacou@enfield.gov.uk

COSIE:

Nigel Ellerby-Jones nigel.ellerby-jones@enfield.gov.uk

12. Enfield - Emotionally Based School Avoidance (EBSA)

Emotionally based school avoidance or non-attendance is a growing concern for schools and families across Enfield. Led by EPS, Admissions and Education Welfare Service, partner services across the Council and the NHS Trust are working together to develop our response.

An Enfield wide development group has been established and meets monthly to identify priorities, build capacity and create change. So far, the group has developed:

- Focus groups, held in June 2021, to learn more about the concerns and experiences of schools, parents and young people.
- Termly training for school staff and professionals, commissioned by the Admissions Service and provided by the Educational Psychology Service in partnership with the Education Welfare Service.
- A termly workshop for parents and carers who are concerned about their children's anxiety and/or difficulty with attending school.
- Commitment to a locally published resource to help schools feel informed and skilled about EBSA.

Is emotionally based school non-attendance a concern for your school or setting?

Join the Educational Psychology Service at an online two-part workshop for schools. We will:

- ▶ Learn more about the factors which trigger and maintain anxiety
- ▶ Consider the issue through a trauma-informed lens
- ▶ Explore the assess-plan-do review cycle for pupils experiencing this issue
- ▶ Discuss partnership working with parents and young people
- ▶ Share good practice amongst schools
- ▶ Identify what is in place for parents, young people and schools

Tuesday 29th June
4-5.30pm

Tuesday 6th July
4-5.30pm

No cost to schools

To book, please email eps-sews@enfield.gov.uk

www.enfield.gov.uk



The themes of this work are:

- Thinking of EBSA in an inclusive way, including types of non-attendance and sections of the community who might previously have been misunderstood as truanting or not valuing education.
- How to identify children at risk of EBSA at an early stage.
- How to assess the needs of children experiencing EBSA.
- Appropriate support and intervention for children and their families.
- Developing a whole-school approach to the prevention of EBSA.
- A clear offer from each service about what advice and help they can provide to schools and families.

Contact: eps-sews@enfield.gov.uk

13. Enfield - Nurture Groups

Nurture groups are evidence-informed interventions that offer short-term, inclusive, focused support that works in the long term. Groups of between six and twelve children or young people in schools are supported by the whole staff group and parents. The group is run by two members of staff. Whilst attending the nurture groups children maintain links with their main class, and typically return full time to their own class within two to four terms.

In the group, attachment-aware approaches are adopted to support and nurture development. Meeting emotional need is prioritised along with an emphasis on language development and communication which leads to better access to learning tasks. Food is shared with many opportunities for social learning, helping children to attend to the needs of others, with time to listen and be listened to. Marjorie Boxall's six nurture group principles are followed within the group and become threaded through whole school approaches. This work complements the E-TIPS developments and nurture groups can be seen as part of the E-TIPS attachment aware approach.

As the children learn academically and socially, they develop confidence, become responsive to others, learn self-respect and take pride in behaving well and in achieving. Nurture groups have been working successfully for more than 40 years in the UK and have been supported and recommended by Ofsted.

Update for Enfield

Enfield recognises Nurture Groups as an important tool in early intervention and supporting mental health and commissions eligible schools to host a group by contributing to staff costs.

A recent review of this long-standing provision supports the impact of the nurture groups and has offered more groups to reach more children. Many schools provide a group from within their school funding.

Enfield EY SEND Team offers trans-disciplinary support, training and consultation to assist schools in running these unique settings effectively.

Support includes:

- extensive training programme
- school consultation
- termly peer networking
- annual monitoring.

Lead contact julia.hide@enfield.gov.uk