

Response from officer from Huntington Primary School

1. What steps do you take to promote an awareness of the mental health needs and vulnerabilities of young people in your school?

School mission statement Consider And Respect Everyone sets out values, expectations and ethos.

We are a leading SEAL School in York and Social & Emotional Aspects of Learning run as a core through all we do.

Close working with families all staff, led by Head teacher, Health promotion and Healthy Schools Award, use of pupil premium to enable children to be fully included e.g. music tuition

Spiritual, Moral, Social & Cultural development was judged by Ofsted as Outstanding in March 2013

- 2. Do you or how might you use other young people in your school to support those you identify as vulnerable? Peer Mediators, Buddy systems (all year groups)
- 3. What procedures have you to identify and share information about children who are solitary and at risk and who may be showing signs of emotional ill health? Observations, Teaching Assistant support targeted at vulnerable pupils
- 4. What significant piece of work or action taken by you in the past three years has had the biggest impact on adolescent mental health in your school? Annual anti-bullying week, peer mediators, behaviour policy & practice review
 - (i). Why do you think this is?

 Children feel better equipped to deal with issues as they arise and know who to go to in school for help

- 5. What training have you had in the past three years for dealing with mental health issues in your school?

 CAMHS training, Bereavement Counselling training
 - (i). Have you used that training at your school? Please give examples of training being put into practice

 To support 3 pupils and their families when one parent has died
- 6. How do you rate your school at dealing with young people's emotional health issues and what is your plan for the next three years?
 We deal with children's' emotional health issues very well by creating an environment which is safe, secure and caring 'The school provides an exceptionally caring and supportive environment in which all pupils are valued'
 OFSTED March 2013
 - (i). Do you involve the young people at your school in assessing issues?Yes, through School and Class Councils and our Annual Pupil Survey
- 7. As voluntary organisations become further involved in the community have you been approached by an organisation and would you welcome this?
 - (i). What support would you welcome?
 We struggled to find training for childhood bereavement. I would find it helpful to know what is available through the health, education and voluntary sectors locally (that is in York).
- 8. What services are you aware of that are available for students in your school?

 Behaviour support, CAMHS
- How often does your school ask young people about their emotional wellbeing?
 This is an on-going matter in our school as previously outlined.
- 10. Do the staff at your school have confidence to deal with emotional health and wellbeing issues? Yes, we work as a team in supporting each other with this.

- 11. What do you want to achieve for young people's wellbeing in your school? We aim for our pupils to feel happy, safe, and secure in school; to know who to turn to in times of trouble and be confident that they will get the help they feel they need.
- 12. Do you plan on developing peer to peer support for young people within your school? If so, how? If not, why not? This is already in place in our school across all year groups and at break/lunch times through peer mediation.
- 13. Do you think City of York Council should be introducing a baseline to measure against? If so what do you think this should look like?
 I am not certain how a baseline could be set or how useful it would be with regard to the promotion of well-being and good mental health. I would however like to see a city-wide directory of 'good practice' case studies which could be used for new/different ideas. This could be similar to the Ofsted best practice guides for aspects of the curriculum.