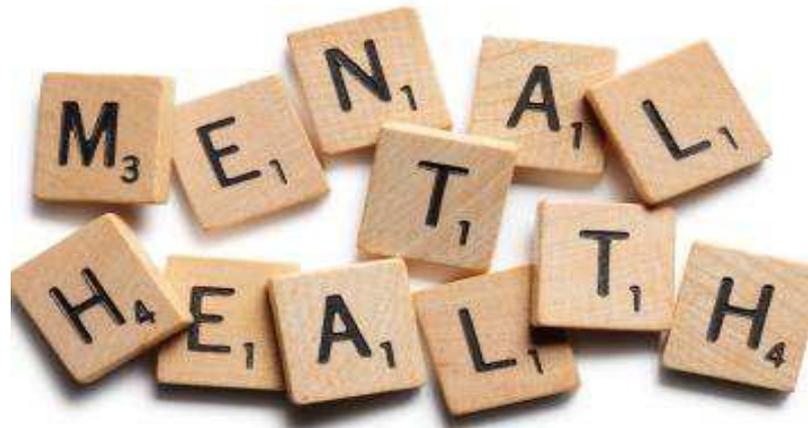


Transforming children and young people's emotional & mental health services in Hertfordshire



**An update for the Health & Well-Being
Board**

June 2017

What is the vision for emotional / mental health & well-being services in Hertfordshire

- A continuum of provision that can be accessed quickly at an appropriate level of need using a single trusted referral and that will offer support to a child / young person or the system around them for as long as it is required
- Seeing the whole child, young person and /or family not just the presenting issues; hearing what has brought them to need and seek help (learning from those who know them best)
- Offering flexible, proactive delivery of services that encourage engagement and empowers professionals and the child or young person and the family to own their journey
- Delivers a range of evidence-based interventions to fit the need of the child or young person that can combine with provision from other services to form a holistic package
- Offering information and signposting that allows children, young people and their families to make an informed choice about interventions and services that could best support them



The School Perspective

- Significant gap in provision for those c&yp requiring support for longer than six weeks but who appropriately do not meet specialist thresholds
 - Lack of communication from Specialist CAMHS (HPFT) when a child has been admitted to A&E – leading to concerns over risk management
- Needing to evidence the impact of their spend on early intervention and prevention (including therapeutic spend) to Finance managers
- Concerns over lack of information, advice and signposting relating to early help emotional health and well-being
- Lack of communication relating to interventions, strategies and discharge from specialist provision leaving schools feeling unsupported
- Need for responsive and holistic assessment and triage to stop children and young people ‘bouncing’ around the system



How are we addressing these?

- Commissioning arrangements will be redefined to cover this gap once the early intervention pathway is in place (mobilisation end of 2018)
- Development of a schools advice line, named case consultation for high need schools, introduction of a range of protocols and supporting documents to improve communication between Specialist CAMHS & Schools
- Training for schools on using outcome measures effectively to monitor impact and effectiveness of school based interventions
- Over 300 Hertfordshire schools have a named lead for mental health. The role varies from school to school. Further work to define and evolve the role and competencies are planned
- Development of 4 posts within Families First to deliver brief interventions for those unable to access existing provision
- Introduction of 3 additional workers to deliver early triage and assessment in a holistic way that can include home and school based observations
- Implementation of single trusted referral to provide access to most appropriate service
- Development of needs led early intervention pathway
- Robust training programme for staff across children's services, health and schools.

Challenges

- Increasing capacity across the continuum, particularly around early help
- Effectively resourcing early intervention provision (financially & staffing)
- Streamlining provision and interfaces to develop a seamless continuum regardless of service provider
- Implementing Thrive across all commissioned and non commissioned activity to improve outcomes for c&yp
- Ensuring children, young people, schools and their networks are seen as equal partners in therapeutic delivery
- Moving away from a clinical model to community based provision
- Developing a range of creative interventions, individual and group that are needs led and empower children and young people
- Integrating provision in the face of diminishing budgets, particularly for schools.



Next steps for Hertfordshire

- **Building on the implementation of the community mental health workers to develop comprehensive early intervention pathway built on Thrive like principles**
- **Continuing to embed the views and ideas of schools, professionals, families, children and young people within service delivery, redesign and commissioning to achieve co-production**
- **Showcasing the benefits and impacts for children, families and professional networks to encourage continued development of collaborative working to deliver needs led provision**
- **Identifying opportunities to develop an early help single point of access to provision.**