The Oldham Whole School/College Approach to Emotional Health and Mental Wellbeing

What governors need to know…

The Oldham whole school and college approach to emotional health and mental wellbeing framework aims to promote social, emotional and mental wellbeing across Oldham schools and colleges, tackling mental health problems of pupils with more serious difficulty and provides guidance on how to commission safe and effective emotional health and mental wellbeing interventions or services in schools.

The framework sets out key actions that head teachers and college principles can take to embed the whole school approach to emotional and mental wellbeing in their educational settings.

The actions contained in the documents are based on eight principles which are informed by national best practice and mental health practitioner feedback on what works.

If applied consistently and comprehensively across a whole school or college setting it can positively impact on:

- The cognitive development of children, learning, motivation, and sense of commitment and connectedness with learning and with school/college.
- Staff well-being, reduced stress, sickness and absence, improved teaching ability and performance.
- Pupil well-being including happiness, a sense of purpose, connectedness and meaning.
- The development of the social and emotional skills and attitudes that promote learning, success, well-being and mental health, in school/college and throughout life.
- The prevention and reduction of mental ill health such as depression, anxiety and stress.
- Improving school behaviour, including reductions in low-level disruption, incidents, fights, bullying, exclusions and absence.
- Reducing risky behaviour.

To support the delivery of the emotional and mental health in Oldham schools and colleges, the framework is supported by the following key documents which have been designed locally by multi-agency groups including Public Health, Education, Schools (Primary and Secondary), Oldham College, Clinical Commissioning Group (CCG), Pennine Care Foundation Trust and Pennine Acute Trust and Tameside, Oldham and Glossop MIND. These include:

- A graduated response to deliver selected and targeted support to children and young people as part of the Oldham pathway.
- A self-assessment check list.
- Quality assurance framework to support schools by Pennine Care Foundation Trust (PCFT).

The whole school and college approach to emotional health and mental wellbeing and supporting documents are available online: www.oldham.gov.uk/emhworesources

Contact information

If you require further information or have any questions regarding Oldham’s Whole School or College Approach to Emotional Health and Mental Wellbeing Framework, please contact Mike Bridges by email or telephone.

Email: mike.bridges@oldham.gov.uk
Telephone: 0161 770 4681
Public Health - Oldham Council August 2017