**FAQs for Education**

*November 2020*

1. **What is a Mental Health Support Team?**

NHS Hull CCG and Hull City Council are working together to create two Mental Health Support Teams (MHST) with our delivery partner Humber Teaching Foundation Trust who will provide early intervention mental health support for children and young people aged 5 – 18 within schools and colleges.

The MHSTs will work across education, health and care and, in collaboration with existing early intervention provision (e.g. HeadStart Hull, Children’s Centres, Youth Service etc), will provide consultation to support schools and colleges to identify and manage issues relating to mental health and wellbeing, as well as delivering high quality evidence-based interventions for children, young people and families who experience mild and moderate needs, and requesting specialist support as necessary.

The MHST has three functions:

* Delivering evidence-based interventions for mild to moderate mental health issues
* Supporting the senior mental health lead in each school or college to introduce or develop their whole school or college approach
* Giving timely advice to school and college staff, and liaising with external specialist services, to help children and young people to get the right support and stay in education.

Each MHST will consist of two Senior Practitioners and four Education Mental Health Practitioners. There will also be professional/clinical leads across both teams such as social workers, mental health nurses or psychology to support schools.

1. **Why are they coming to Hull?**

Over the next five years, the NHS will fund new MHSTs working in schools, colleges and other education settings, building on the support already available, which will be rolled out to between one-fifth and a quarter of the country by the end of 2022-2023. This exciting project comes to Hull following a successful bid to NHS England and the Department for Education for two MHSTs as a test and learn pilot.

1. **How will MHSTs and Education Mental Health Practitioners (EMHPs) help young people?**

EMHPs are able to offer extra support sooner to intervene early and support pupils or students who present with mild to moderate mental health issues in your school or college. This will be delivered through one to one, group work and parent/carer support which we will be looking to co-design/co-produce with children and young people.

They will help you to with your whole school/college approach to mental health and wellbeing earlier, including promoting positive mental health and supporting teachers to deal or respond to mental health issues more effectively. They will also promote closer partnerships with other community's services including the voluntary, community sector.

1. **How can we get involved?**

You can get involved by submitting an [expression of interest form](https://www.surveymonkey.co.uk/r/BX6RMND) to become a pilot site, meaning your pupils will not only benefit from early access to the EMHPs whilst they are in training, but will also have a key role in the development of the service and can influence how it will work best across schools and colleges. More details of how to get involved are in the expressions of interest letter, or you can contact [hullccc.schoollinks@nhs.net](mailto:hullccc.schoollinks@nhs.net)

1. **Who will be delivering the service?**

Humber Teaching NHS Foundation Trust will be the provider of the Mental Health Support Teams in partnership with Hull City Council and NHS Hull Clinical Commissioning Group.

1. **Where will the MHSTs be based?**

It is endeavoured that the MHSTs will be based at The Walker Street Centre however the EMHPs will spend a significant amount of time in schools and other education settings. They will require an appropriate space to work when they are on site, which information can be found in the settings requirement document.

1. **When will the service be available?**

The EMHPs will begin their training in February 2021 and begin placements in 8 education settings across Hull in May 2021. As this is a test and learn pilot, the service will be continually reviewed and developed to ensure it suits the needs of children and young people locally. Following this period of development, the service will be fully functioning across all participating Hull schools and colleges by April 2022.

1. **How much time will we be expected to give to this project?**

The amount of time you would need to give to the project would depend largely on how involved you wish to be. There are a number of ways you can get involved in the co-production of the service, the requirements of this are laid out in the Expressions of Interest letter.