

Publications Gateway Ref. 03603

Child and Adolescent Mental Health Service and Schools Link Pilot Scheme

NHS England and the Department for Education are inviting proposals from CCGs working with partners, to apply to become a pilot to improve joint working between school settings and child and adolescent mental health services (local NHS funded CAMHS). Grants of up to £50,000 are available per CCG taking part in the pilot. CCGs will be required to match fund this amount. Up to £3,500 is also available to each school taking part in the pilot. Additional funding of up to £100,000 per CCG will also be available for a small number of CCGs, to opt in to an extension of the pilots which will look at developing models of how to better integrate with children's services that are delivering support to vulnerable children.

Background

Improving children and young people's mental health and wellbeing is one of this Government's key priorities as part of the drive to put mental health on an equal footing with physical health. This pilot is part of the strategic vision for shaping sustainable system wide transformation, to close the treatment gap and ensure support is built around the needs of children and young people.

In September 2014, the Government established the Children and Young People's Mental Health Taskforce. This brought together experts on children and young people's mental health including children and young people themselves, with leaders from key national and local organisations across health, social care, youth justice and education sectors. The aim of the Taskforce was to identify what needs to be done to improve children and young people's mental health and wellbeing, with a particular focus on making it easier to access help and support, and to improve how children and young people's mental health services are organised, commissioned and provided.

The Taskforce report *Future in Mind*¹, published in March 2015, identified that the current system has unintentionally created barriers between services and can result in children and young people falling between gaps, and experiencing poor transition between services. It highlighted some key principles about how to make it easier for children and young people to access high quality mental health care when they need it.

The report outlined a number of actions to help improve access to effective support for children and young people. The actions included the establishment of a named point of contact within CAMHS and a named lead within each school. The named lead in schools would be responsible for mental health, developing closer relationships with CAMHS in support of

¹ *Future in Mind*: promoting, protecting and improving our children and young people's mental health and wellbeing (March 2015)

timely and appropriate referrals to services. The report also recommended the development of a joint training programme for named school leads and CAMHS.

NHS England and the Department for Education propose to run pilots during 2015-16 to test the named lead approach and to trial a joint training programme for these lead roles.

Outline of the pilot

NHS England and the Department for Education propose to work with pilot CCGs to test the named lead approach and the training programme. NHS England and the Department for Education are additionally recruiting a training organisation to develop and deliver the joint training programme.

The aims of the training are to:

- raise awareness and improve knowledge of mental health issues amongst school staff;
- improve CAMHS understanding of specific mental health and well-being issues within schools; and
- support more effective joint working between schools and CAMHS.

We expect the length of the training to be around 2 days. The training might be delivered on consecutive days or split over time. There may also be a requirement to take part in online training.

We anticipate that the training will be delivered from September 2015 and completed by March 2016. The evaluation is expected to last for a longer period of time. Schools and CCGs may be asked to take part in follow up surveys and questionnaires up to one year after the pilots are completed.

At a national level, NHS England is working with the Department for Education to ensure that this initiative is closely aligned with other service developments in child and adolescent mental health services which are already underway.

This includes:

- work to take forward recommendations in the CAMHS Tier 4 Report²;
- further roll out of the Children and Young People Improving Access to Psychological Therapies (CYP IAPT) programme;
- an access and waiting time standard for individuals experiencing first episode psychosis, the majority of whom are aged between 16 and 25, as well as further work to develop a waiting time standard on eating disorders and other mental health conditions;
- developing model service specifications for CAMHS provision at targeted and specialist levels, for Tier 4 inpatient services to improve the experience of transition for young people leaving CAMHS; and

² *Child and Adolescent Mental Health Services (CAMHS) Tier 4 Report* (July, 2014)

- implementation of the new Special Educational Needs and Disability (SEND) arrangements.

CCG and schools involvement

We are now looking for expressions of interest from CCGs across the country to work with the training organisation to test this programme and the development of named leads within schools.

NHS England and the Department for Education are looking for 15 CCGs to apply to be a part of the pilot programme. Each CCG will be required to select a CAMHS lead and identify 10 or more local schools to take part in the pilot. The CAMHS lead should ideally be someone who has good existing links with local schools. Each school will need to nominate a lead person who has an overview of mental health issues within schools and who will be able to fully participate in the training and the development of the joint working models. This might be a member of the leadership team but could also be someone who has a mental health or wellbeing role, for example, school counsellors, special educational needs coordinators (SENCOs), staff with a pastoral lead or educational psychologists where they are employed by the school. Up to two additional staff from schools may also be nominated to attend the training.

Funding is also available to extend the pilots to look at developing models of better integration with services delivering support to vulnerable children including those who are adopted and looked after children. We would expect to support up to 4 CCGs to additionally cover this element, working in a specific partnership with local children's services.

CCGs will need to:

- commission CAMHS to link with schools; and
- support the testing of the training programme with the training organisation, building in a local element to help support relationships and reflect local circumstances through the CAMHS lead.

CAMHS will need to:

- identify and support CAMHS named leads to work with each school;
- test the named lead approach;
- commit to relevant staff attending training; and
- participate in the process and impact evaluations of the pilot, for example by taking part in baseline and follow-up surveys, interviews and providing other data including after the end of the pilot.

The schools lead will need to:

- commit to working collaboratively with the training organisation including attending training; and
- participate in the process and impact evaluations of the pilot, for example, by taking part in baseline and follow-up surveys, interviews and providing other data including after the end of the pilot.

CCGs, CAMHS and schools will also need to collaboratively develop local protocols for joint working across schools and CAMHS.

Benefits for pilot areas

CCGs and schools participating in this project will benefit by:

- being part of a pilot initiative, which will test new ways of working with the aim of improving outcomes for children and young people;
- having the opportunity to help to develop and influence a joint training programme which will support improvements in outcomes for children and young people adapted to local circumstances and need;
- receiving mental health training, which will include core information about mental health and well-being, identification tools and potential interventions;
- receiving specific training to support effective joint working between CAMHS and schools;
- receiving support in developing and agreeing locally determined approaches; and
- support with local transformation - participation in the pilot should be included in Local Transformation Plans [\[link to guidance\]](#) as an indicator of robust local planning across agencies.

Applications will need to demonstrate a strong commitment to partnership working at a local level and a drive to lead and accelerate change to improve outcomes for children and young people.

If you would like to be considered as a pilot site for the CAMHS and Schools Link Scheme, complete the Expression of Interest form below, addressing the required criteria to harriethamilton@nhs.net by midnight 31st July 2015.

If you have any queries, please contact michelle.place1@nhs.net

Child and Adolescent Mental Health Service and Schools Link Scheme Selection Criteria, Process and National Support for Pilot Sites

Expression of Interest Application form

Within the application please demonstrate:

- sign up from at least 10 local schools. This should include a mix of primary and secondary schools and could reflect local arrangements, for example, secondary schools and their feeder schools. Each school will need to identify a named lead and demonstrate a commitment to release the named lead and ideally up to two further staff to attend the training;
- support from local CAMHS – with agreed named point of contact;
- an identified mental health lead within your CCG;
- commitment to being involved in the evaluation of the pilot; and

- how this work will fit with your local Children and Young People’s Mental Health Transformation Plan.

If you are also applying for the funding to look at models of engaging with services for vulnerable children, you should provide details in the application form which shows an understanding of the local situation for vulnerable children and proposals for how these pilots could be extended to improve the identification and treatment of mental health issues suffered by vulnerable children. If applying for this, CCGs should demonstrate engagement with a specific [local authority or VCS] service or services for vulnerable groups and the practice to be supported.

Selection process

The selection process will be fair and transparent and will be assessed against the selection criteria using a scoring system. The assessment process will also take account of the location of CCGs applying to take part with the aim of achieving a good regional spread.

Expressions of interest must be submitted by a lead CCG (which would act as a funding recipient).

Potential pilot areas should return their expression of interest applications to Harriet Hamilton harriethamilton@nhs.net by midnight Friday 31st July.

The selection panel of representatives from the Department of Health, Department for Education and NHS England will review all Eols. The successful pilots will be announced in August 2015.

Child and Adolescent Mental Health Service and Schools Link Scheme Selection Criteria, Process and National Support for Pilot Sites

Name of lead CCG

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Contact details to discuss this application

Name	
Email	
Telephone	
Address	

CAMHS involved in the application - *please detail service and include contact details of named point of contact email address and telephone*

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Schools involved in the application - *this should detail the names of head teachers and contact details of school including email address and telephone*

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CCGs wishing to extend the pilot to include models of engaging services for vulnerable children –*please describe how you plan to extend the pilot and to which services (no more than 700 words)*

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Please set out what you aim to achieve in your local area through the CAMHS and Schools Link Scheme *please include how this work will link with your Transformation Plan (no more than 700 words)*

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Please demonstrate below how you meet the selection criteria *(no more than 700 words)*

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Please confirm you will, if selected

Share the learning from your work nationally and locally

Electronic signatures of Directors of Commissioning /CEO of relevant organisation

Name	Signature