



Name of School	The Toynbee School
Date of Policy Issue/Review	
Name of Responsible Manager/Headteacher	Paul Lawrence
Governors' Sub-Committee	Welfare & Guidance

POLICY STATEMENT

Mental Health is a state of well-being in which every individual realises his or her own potential, can cope with the normal stresses of life, can work productively and fruitfully, and is able to make a contribution to her or his community. (World Health Organization)

At Toynbee School, we aim to promote positive mental health for every member of our staff and pupil body. We pursue this aim using both universal, whole school approaches and specialised, targeted approaches aimed at vulnerable students.

In addition to promoting positive mental health, we aim to recognise and respond to mental ill health. By developing and implementing practical, relevant and effective mental health provision and procedures we can promote a safe, calm and stable environment for pupils affected both directly, and indirectly by mental ill health.

SCOPE

This Policy describes the school's approach to promoting positive mental health and wellbeing. This policy is intended as guidance for all staff including support staff and governors. This policy should be read in conjunction with our Child Protection and Safeguarding Policies (where a pupil is at risk of harm), the First Aid policy (in cases where a pupil's mental health overlaps with or is linked to a medical issue) and the SEN policy (where a student has an identified special educational need). In addition, the policy should be read alongside the document 'Mental Health Processes' which outlines the school's provision for promoting positive mental health, whilst also supporting pupils who are affected by mental health issues.

POLICY AIMS

- Promote positive mental health and the wellbeing of the whole school population
- Equip pupils to be resilient so they can manage the normal stresses of life effectively
- Increase understanding and awareness of common mental health issues
- Provide support to pupils suffering mental ill health and their peers and parents/carers
- Provide support to staff working with young people with mental health issues
- Support and train staff to recognise emerging issues as early and accurately as possible
- Help and signpost pupils to access evidence based early support and interventions
- To work effectively with external agencies to provide swift access or referrals to specialist support

LEAD MEMBERS OF STAFF:

All staff have a responsibility to promote the mental health of pupils. The staff with a specific and relevant remit are:

- Mr Longden - Designated Safeguarding Lead
- Mr Lawrence – Deputy Designated Safeguarding Lead
- Guidance Managers - Pupil Welfare and Support



- Mrs Vallance - Mental Health Lead
- Mrs Hinks - CPD lead
- Mrs Hill - SENCO (DSL Trained)
- Mrs Taylor - VI Resource Manager (DSL Trained)
- Mrs Thwaites - PDL/PSHE Coordinator
- Mrs Thompson and Mrs Nicholls - First Aiders

Any member of staff who is concerned about the mental health or wellbeing of a student should speak to the pupil's Guidance Manager in the first instance. If there is a fear that the student is in danger of immediate harm then the normal child protection and safeguarding procedures should be followed by making an immediate referral to the Designated Safeguarding Lead. If the pupil presents with a medical emergency then the normal procedures for medical emergencies should be followed, including alerting the first aid staff and contacting the emergency services if necessary. Where a referral to CAMHS is appropriate, this will be led and managed by SENCO and GMs

PARTNERSHIP WITH PARENTS /CARERS

Toynbee School recognises that parents have a unique overview of the child's needs and how best to support them, and that this gives them a key role in the partnership. In order to support parents we will:

- Highlight sources of information and support about common mental health issues on our school website
- Ensure that all parents are aware of who to talk to, and how to get about this, if they have concerns about their own child or a friend of their child
- Make our Mental Health Policy and Process documents easily accessible to parents via the website
- Share ideas about how parents can support positive mental health in their children through our regular information evenings
- Keep parents informed about the mental health topics their children are learning about in PDL/PSHE sessions and share ideas for extending and exploring this learning at home

MONITORING & GOVERNANCE

The Governing Body's responsibilities within this Mental Health Policy are

- Being fully involved in developing, monitoring and subsequently reviewing the Mental Health Policy
- To monitor Mental Health provision at the school
- The W&G Link Governors to visit annually

This will be delivered through the presentation and analysis of

- Annual monitoring of procedures and practice by W&G Committee
- 'Mental Health Process' Document
- School Self-Evaluation
- The School Development Plan.