



Specialist Teaching and Learning Service

Ashford District

Newsletter June 2020

As schools and settings we have shown what a reflective dynamic profession we are. We have completely changed the way in which we work and made sure we reach our young people in innovative fresh ways.

I know we are all looking at what children 'need' in remote terms and as they return to school.

Specialist teachers in Ashford have been working with county colleagues gathering the best resources from across the country to support children and allow them to process what has been a very changeable time.

We know that as children return to school or nursery many will thrive on the social connections and routines of the day.

The resources within this newsletter are aimed at supporting the emotional wellbeing of children; as children return we know that this is the building block that all other parts of their learning journey will be built upon.

Kerry Greene

Early Years Transition during the COVID-19 Crisis

Covid-19 Crisis in Early Years

An aide-memoire to support transition

- **What was it like for child and parent?** Make sure you understand and value their C-19 experiences.
- **How is this knowledge incorporated into their day?** Continue this learning in the curriculum.
- **Are you aware of the approved C-19 resources?** Refer to the longer advice handbook.
- **How have you shown the children their new environment and adults?** Video tours, social stories...
- **Have you prepared children for a different daily structure, from the one they knew in T4?**
- **Do you have health concerns?** Ask STLS - we have useful NHS Therapy advice to share until they return.
- **Do you have SEND concerns?** Use your previous training, access EY LIFT, LIFT and new Virtual Training.
- **Do you feel safe?** You decide how children should return...

How are you and your colleagues?

Keep checking! (Advice in handbook)



This is a quick reference 'aide-memoire' to help with children returning to Early Years settings. The handbook referred to is the same as the school Covid-19 KEPS Advice Handbook.



If you would like to make a contribution towards the Ashford STLS Newsletter please contact to Kerry or Chloe.

Thank you

Risk Assessments



Many of you will already have made the necessary risk assessments before inviting children to return to your School or Early Years Setting, but these links from Valence School will help to check any current plans, and give you confidence if you are just starting this task.

<https://www.stlsvalence.com/>

[https://www.stlsvalence.com/page/?](https://www.stlsvalence.com/page/?title=STLS+PHYSICAL+DISABILITY+AND+COMPLEX+MEDICAL+NEEDS+%2D+KENT&pid=43)

[title=STLS+PHYSICAL+DISABILITY+AND+COMPLEX+MEDICAL+NEEDS+%2D+KENT&pid=43](https://www.stlsvalence.com/page/?title=STLS+PHYSICAL+DISABILITY+AND+COMPLEX+MEDICAL+NEEDS+%2D+KENT&pid=43)

[FAQs from the COVID-19 Webinar on EY Risk Assessments :](#)



Pupils in Primary Education | Emotional Wellbeing

Updated guidance for schools on remotely supporting pupil and staff wellbeing
The full guidance can be found:

<https://www.gov.uk/guidance/supporting-pupils-wellbeing>

Are you Worried or sad about something?

Sometimes talking makes it easier.

Your Head Teacher or any adult in your education setting will have access to resources that might help – talk to them.

offers a fun, engaging and interactive way for children to learn about health. Find games, articles and lots more right here.

<https://www.healthforkids.co.uk>

“You can contact Childline about anything. Whatever your worry, it's better out than in. We're here to support you.

<https://www.childline.org.uk/>



Emotional Wellbeing Support for Primary School Aged Children - Here you'll find paramount support options for primary-aged children and their parents/ carers. The resources are predominantly focused on activities, mindfulness exercises, and supporting the understanding of the COVID-19 changes. The services referenced focus on The School Public Health Service and the CYP Kent Emotional Wellbeing services.

https://www.kelsi.org.uk/_data/assets/pdf_file/0010/108919/Emotional-Wellbeing-Support-for-Primary-School-Aged-Children-Covid19.pdf

Emotional Wellbeing for Vulnerable Pupils - This is a new resource developed by STLS and KEPS, focusing on vulnerable students. The information included here features an additional Google drive with checklists, activities and resources to use with children and young people in all settings.

https://www.kelsi.org.uk/_data/assets/pdf_file/0015/109104/Emotional-Wellbeing-Vulnerable-Pupils.pdf



Pupils in Secondary | Emotional Wellbeing Young People

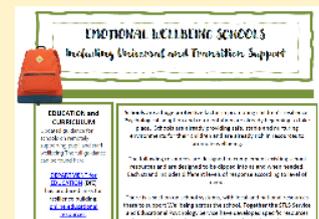


Emotional Wellbeing – Young People - This section highlights support available for young people to access independently, in addition or instead of support sought from school staff, carers, or friends. It includes a variety of means of support, for example, web-based guidance, online counselling, text support, phone calls, conversation tools, etc. These are known to encourage many young people to share how they are feeling and to reassure that it is normal to feel anxious at this time.

https://www.kelsi.org.uk/_data/assets/pdf_file/0010/108919/Emotional-Wellbeing-Support-for-Primary-School-Aged-Children-Covid19.pdf

Emotional Wellbeing in Schools; including universal and transition support -

Many schools are already providing safe, stable, and nurturing environments for their children and are rich in resources to promote wellbeing. This section contains bespoke resources for universal emotional wellbeing support, transition wellbeing and Early Years, if required. They include specific support for reintegration through checklists, toolkits, guidance and practical classroom resources.



https://www.kelsi.org.uk/_data/assets/pdf_file/0007/108916/Emotional-Wellbeing-in-Education-Settings-Covid-19.pdf

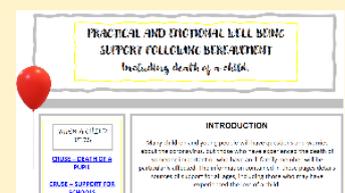
Emotional Wellbeing – Highly Anxious Students - Here you'll find additional resources developed by STLS and KEPS providing initial guidance to meet the immediate challenges for highly anxious students who are perhaps not attending school. The google drive includes an introductory brief guide to anxiety, tools to 'measure' anxiety and create a back to school plan, resources for interventions, whole school good practice, tools for managing anxiety during (and after) the Covid-19 pandemic, recommended reading and further suggested resources.

https://www.kelsi.org.uk/_data/assets/pdf_file/0009/109269/Emotional-Wellbeing-Support-Highly-Anxious.pdf



Practical and Emotional Wellbeing Support Following Bereavement - The extensive information, resources and services included in this section will provide support to practitioners to enable them to help children and young people following bereavement. The guidance can help to foster new networks of support and highlights a school's role in providing routine and consistency when other aspects of life are disrupted.

https://www.kelsi.org.uk/_data/assets/pdf_file/0006/108924/Practical-and-Emotional-Wellbeing-Support-Following-Bereavement.pdf



A place where young people can learn how to look after their emotional and mental health.



<https://moodspark.org.uk>



ACCESS TO TRAINING FOR SCHOOL STAFF *Staff Wellbeing*

THE EDUCATION PEOPLE: School webinars: **Looking Ahead** – strategies for reintegrating back to the new normal of education, Webinars with focus on the Covid19 – pandemic:

- Post Covid Lockdown – supporting the transition to YR
- Post Covid Lockdown – supporting the transition to Y1
- Supporting children with anxiety
- What do Head Teachers and Senior Leaders need to know about the EYFS
- Self-care for professionals in the Covid-19 pandemic – developing your essential toolbox
- Understanding trauma and how we can best respond in the Covid19 pandemic
- Is working from home taking its toll on your mental health?



<https://www.theeducationpeople.org/>

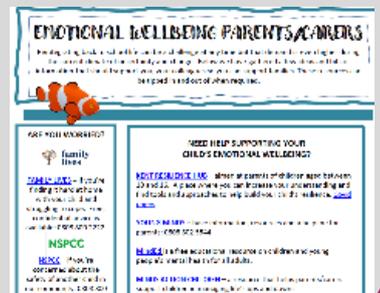


Staff Wellbeing - Reintegrating back to school life can be a challenge at any time but that demand is even higher during the current climate of uncertainty and change. Here you'll find information, resources, and services that should support you and your colleagues in this process.

https://www.kelsi.org.uk/_data/assets/pdf_file/0010/109099/Staff-Wellbeing.pdf

Practical Resources for Parents and Carers - The guidance in this section reflects the central role parents and carers play in developing their knowledge and skills to support the emotional wellbeing of their child as well as themselves.

https://www.kelsi.org.uk/_data/assets/pdf_file/0004/108922/Practical-Resources-for-parents-and-carers.pdf



Virtual SENCo Forum

23rd June 2020

1:00pm-3:00pm

via Microsoft Teams



To book please email chloe.webb@goldwyn.kent.sch.uk