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DERBYSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL
CABINET MEMBER FOR YOUNG PEOPLE MEETING

2 March 2021

Executive Director for Children's Services

Wellbeing for Education Return

1. Purpose of Report

To provide an update to the Cabinet Member regarding the recent project Wellbeing for Education Return.

The report highlights some of the cross council working that took place, as well as feedback from delegates who have attended the free webinar to help support schools in responding to the emotional impact of the Coronavirus pandemic on students and staff.

2. Information and Analysis

Background

As a result of the pandemic, children and young people may present with a range of mental health and wellbeing issues. The majority will be normal reactions to their experiences over the last six months; others may have new, different or increased mental health needs or be struggling to access the services they need. Teachers and education staff will need to be able to recognise, understand and respond appropriately to these reactions and have the confidence to support their colleagues, children and young people and their parents and carers. To support children's emotional health and wellbeing, the Department for Education has worked with the Department of Health and Social Care, Health Education England, Public Health England and NHS England and Improvement and an expert advisory group to develop Wellbeing for Education Return. This is a support offer with two parts:

- A new, nationally developed training package for education staff.

- Funding for local authorities to appoint one or more local experts to work with local partners to adapt this training to a local context, deliver it to nominated staff in education settings, and provide ongoing advice and support until March 2021.

Derbyshire County Council Children's Services has been working with schools, NHS England and other external partners to locally tailor the training materials. This has further enhanced the content of the package now being offered to schools and brings a local focus to the training materials.

The course was made available to all state-funded education settings in Derbyshire, including academies, special schools, pupil referral units and alternative provision.

This project was an excellent example of team working in the council, with various teams contributing to the programme, coordinated by the Programmes Team.

(S4S) Services for Schools

Supplied both electronic and personal promotion of the availability of training to schools, academies and education settings across Derbyshire, managed the infrastructure of the booking process, provided digital hosting of course resources, and delivered post training feedback and reports.

Educational Psychologist Team / Behavior Support Team

The teams locally tailored training materials supplied by the government, attended national "train the trainer" events, and provided 7 coordinators to deliver a selection of Webinars in 2020/2021 to cover day and twilight sessions.

Outputs and Outcomes

As of 10th February 2021, 157 educational staff from 95 educational settings have attended training and more than 50% provided feedback, which is in appendix 1.

There are a further 8 webinars planned for 2021, which it is hoped will reach a further 150 educational staff. Recordings of the webinar series will be available following the delivery, leaving a legacy when the programme concludes in March 2021.

Feedback from delegates:

- **94% plan to disseminate information from the webinars to others in their school or educational setting.**
- **98% have an increased awareness of the impact of COVID-19 on others.**

- **97% have a raised awareness of specialist and wider support services in their local area.**
- **97% have increased understanding of when and how to signpost to specialist and wider support services.**

Quotes – (feedback shown in appendix 1)

Fantastic sessions - well paced and informative - will be very useful for my school.

Helped me personally to see that colleagues are going through and sharing similar concerns and anxiety.

Realisation that all schools are experiencing the same things and you are doing the best to support the children and the families in the Community.

Thank you for an extremely well presented training session, full of useful information, links and clear explanations to the slides. The package perfectly addresses the current climate we all find ourselves in today. I look forward to receiving the course materials and to sharing with colleagues to improve outcomes for our children, their families and staff.

3. Financial Considerations

£141,600 of government funding has been received to deliver Well Being for Education Return and provide ongoing advice and support.

Throughout the delivery of the programme Derbyshire County Council Children's Services have maximised the funding available for delivery and minimised administration costs wherever possible. The course was made available at no charge to delegates. 78% of the grant has been utilised in the delivery and 22% for ongoing advice and support as part of the programme.

4. Social Value Considerations

The project is supporting children and young people who may present with a range of mental health and wellbeing issues in education, staff in education settings and local experts/ local partners.

5. Executive Director's Recommendation

That the Cabinet Member notes the positive impact the project has had on staff in schools and education settings in responding to the emotional impact of the Coronavirus pandemic on students and staff

That the cabinet member notes the cross council working exemplified through the delivery.

Jane Parfremment
Executive Director for Children's Services

Appendix 1

Written feedback.
All the examples will help put different scenarios into context and help support us to share different situations.
Clearer understanding of the 5Rs and the distinction between low mood and anxiety, things to look out for which could be missed.
Fantastic sessions - well paced and informative - will be very useful for my school.
Helped me personally to see that colleagues are going through and sharing similar concerns and anxiety.
I just wanted to say that it has been fantastic, with lots of useable information which I can cascade to our staff.
I particularly liked the content on supporting staff in webinar 1. We often forget to put ourselves first.
Information and the resource links are very helpful.
That was really useful to just feel validated that a lot of the things we are already doing are in line with the evidence based approach.
"Raised general awareness of wellbeing and mental health and the background to supporting staff, students and the community.
Realisation that all schools are experiencing the same things and you are doing the best to support the children and the families in the Community.
"Really useful resources and a wealth of links which I intend to explore. Very relevant, especially at this time.
Some good reminders - the slides will be useful to have that all in one place. Comments from other attending have been very useful too and I will follow some of those up. Thank you for a very informative sessions.
Thank you for an extremely well presented training session, full of useful information, links and clear explanations to the slides . The package perfectly addresses the current climate we all find ourselves in today. I look forward to receiving the course materials and to sharing with colleagues to improve outcomes for our children, their families and staff.

I plan to share the outcomes of the training with Full Governors and discuss the suggested strategies with the Director of Pastoral Care to confirm current practice.

The iconography used is very helpful as part of dissemination. The slides will be useful for that.

The power points and contact details will be so useful for sharing with all staff. Its a great link between Nurture, SEND, Behavior, Wellbeing and RSE.

The signposting of online resources has been incredibly beneficial. Some of the images used would be helpful to have as PDF files, rather than having to search the links to source them.

This has been so useful, and I look forward to sharing with the rest of our staff to provide a wider support network for staff and pupils in our school.

"Very useful content and clearly explained.

Understanding the 5Rs and using these in the school context will be powerful. Following the morning and afternoon seminars I now realise that these are not in order but interchangeable.

There are some tools that we will also be using to develop understanding within school - the window of tolerance / the resilience framework / 5 key principles of recovery.

Very well delivered really helped to focus me on key behaviors - all communication is an intervention.

WBEP project definitely improved my understanding of the anxiety, low mood and the ways to approach it in order to improve wellbeing of others (students or colleagues). It is also very useful to have all resources in one place so now I know where to find the information. Thank you so much for the opportunity to attend such a fabulous training.