

**Stepping Stones Outreach Newsletter April 2022-2023**

**Enabling Inclusion To Prevent Exclusion**

**Providing Support throughout Covid Lockdown**

**Phone S****upport 94 calls were made seeking advice for vulnerable SEMH pupils alongside emotional support for staff.**

**District 1:** 34 calls from 22 out of 52 schools (42% of schools accessed phone support)

**District 2:** 35 calls from 20 out of 43 schools (46% of schools accessed phone support)

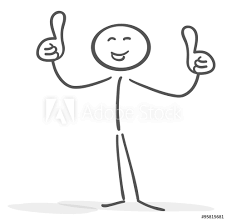
**District 4**: 25 calls from 16 out of 23 schools (70% of schools accessed phone support)

**Support for staff, individual pupils, classes, whole schools 103 individual pupils, 9 whole classes and 1 whole school have received bespoke reports, resources and ongoing advice. There was a significant increase in EYFS & KS1 pupils requiring support, particularly Reception and Y1 pupils.**

**District 1:** 46% of schools accessed the Outreach services.

**District 2:** 53% of schools accessed the Outreach services.

**District 4:** 70% of schools accessed the Outreach services.



*“ Provided a range of effective and manageable strategies which has resulted in very positive outcomes for the child and the rest of the class”* **Assistant Head Teacher**

*“They have helped immensely, explaining processes, talking through things with us. Couldn’t speak more highly of (her) for putting the childrens’ needs first and always respecting our decisions as parents.”* **Parent**

**Feedback from schools and from parents for this service continues to be outstanding.**

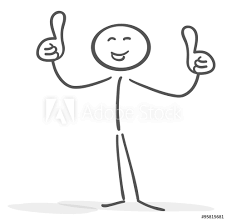
**Behaviour Mentors**

OST were commissioned by the District 1 and 4 hubs to identify and appoint mentors to attend training for the purpose of being the first tier in a graduated response to reducing exclusions. They are not replacing the specialist support provided by Stepping Stones and other specialist service providers. The mentors are experienced TA’s and Learning Mentors providing verbal support for low level behaviour challenges. If the behaviours continue, or if they feel the pupils require more specialist support, they discuss the pupil with Stepping Stones outreach manager and possibly recommend outreach support. Each mentor is allocated several schools who they contact fortnightly to discuss any pupils who are presenting concerns of a social, emotional or mental health nature. They meet half termly with the Outreach Manager to discuss their referrals and they attend all Behaviour Surgeries to offer their expertise. This year the mentors have provided phone support for 36 pupils within 20 schools, 2 of whom have been referred onto specialist teachers for support.

**Training**

All 3 Inclusion Hubs requested professional development for their staff. Training on understanding and supporting SEMH challenges was provided for 320 staff. A survey was sent to each participant to evaluate the long-term impact of the training. Results from this survey can be seen below:

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
|  | **Results from survey** *44 returns* |
| **Was the Training High Quality?** | **100% Yes** |
| **Has your understanding of the area of difficulty helped you to meet the needs of child/children?** | **97% Yes** |
| **Have you used suggested strategies?** | **97% Yes** |
| **Positive impact on pupils’ behaviour & mental health?** | **79% Yes** |
| **Positive impact on access to learning?** | **76% Yes** |
| **For adults supporting individual pupils – Reduction in suspensions?** | **33% Yes** *(6 responses)* |



*“This was a training session that will stay with me throughout my teaching career”.* **Class teacher**

*The content was presented in a clear way with plenty of time for discussion. Relevant, valuable and usable on a day to day basis. An excellent course.***TA**

**Feedback from training continues to be outstanding.**

**Behaviour Surgeries**

Behaviour Surgeries are after school and free. They are very informal ‘Teams’ meetings giving any mainstream staff an opportunity to discuss a child’s SEMH needs. Any and all staff are welcome. Stepping Stones Outreach team and the Behaviour Mentors will be available to give informal advice about strategies and resources. Sometimes whole class teams attend so advice can be implemented consistently to support a child. Feedback from those who have attended surgeries has been excellent. Schools have reported that they like the informality of these surgeries and the variety of suggested strategies from the mentors.

Dates for future surgeries will be displayed on the school website ([www.steppingstones.lancs.sch.uk/outreach](http://www.steppingstones.lancs.sch.uk/outreach))

All staff will need to register by phone to attend these surgeries. A zoom link will be sent prior to the surgery: 01524-67164

**Placements & Exclusions From April 2022-2023 the Multi Assessment Panel approved 14 placements at Stepping Stones, all of whom had received support from the Outreach service. This was a reduction in numbers compared to 32 placements in 2021-22. For those remaining in mainstream, there was a 54% reduction in suspensions.**

**There were 20 permanent exclusions from 11 schools, an 85% increase from 2021-22. This has had a significant impact on the number of pupils who have been able to access placements.**

**Moments of Success**

94 staff members have been able to access phone support from OST.

8 whole classes who have been supported by OST have reported improved behaviour.

64 pupils who have been supported by OST have settled within their mainstream schools.

**Accessing Support**

Diane Sheron starts in a new role as primary Behaviour Consultant for the Lancashire Professional Development Service in April 2023. Katie Greenwood, a highly skilled teacher from Stepping Stones has been appointed as the new manager.

All support can be accessed via phone: 01524-67164 Ext 2 or via email: [k.greenwood@steppingstones.lancs.sch.uk](mailto:k.greenwood@steppingstones.lancs.sch.uk)

[Fran.taylor@steppingstones.lancs.sch.uk](mailto:Fran.taylor@steppingstones.lancs.sch.uk)

All referral forms can be accessed via the school website [www.steppingstones.lancs.sch.uk/outreach](http://www.steppingstones.lancs.sch.uk/outreach)

Information about provision and costs can be found in the current Service Level Agreement

<https://www.steppingstones.lancs.sch.uk/sla-outreach-policy/Agreement>

**Thanks for your continued use of the service.**