

Our new Safeguarding Portal is available now - access to all systems from a single login

Give it a go



THE ROLE OF THE SENIOR MENTAL HEALTH LEAD: WHAT YOU NEED TO KNOW

The Department for Education has recommended that all schools and colleges in England appoint a senior mental health lead by 2025 and are showing their commitment to this initiative by offering grant funding for schools and colleges to train a senior mental health lead. This may be a new role at your school and many safeguarding leads have had this role added to their already hectic workloads. In this blog, we summarise what the role will achieve and why it is vital to have an open culture to address mental health and wellbeing.

WHAT IS A SENIOR MENTAL HEALTH LEAD?

You may already have people in charge of the mental health and wellbeing of the students and staff at your organisation; the Senior Mental Health Lead is for a more strategic implementation and planning role. If the school you are working in is very large you may have several mental health leads with the senior mental health lead responsible for strategy, planning and coordination.

Hi! Need any help?

Our new Safeguarding Portal is available now - access to all systems from a single login

Give it a go



SENIOR MENTAL HEALTH LEAD WHAT THE JOB ENTAILS

The Senior Mental Health Lead is responsible for creating a whole-school approach to supporting mental health and wellbeing as well as an open culture in which staff and students alike can discuss their mental health and wellbeing openly. Other aspects of the role include:

- Promoting good mental health and emotional wellbeing for staff and students alike
- Developing a whole-school approach to support mental wellbeing
- Educating students on mental health and wellbeing
- Training staff to identify signs and symptoms of emerging mental health needs in students
- Have a clear process in which staff can report concerns
- Have a clear process of managing all mental health concerns
- Have systems in place for students to seek help if they need it
- Have policies in place to support students through referrals to specialist services
- Know what local and national help and support is available out of school

Hi! Need any help?



Our new Safeguarding Portal is available now - access to all systems from a single login

Give it a go



and wellbeing.

Developing a whole-school approach to mental health and creating an open culture within your school is no easy task and not something that can be achieved quickly. Therefore, it is important that the people appointed as senior mental health lead can influence change in your setting.



MENTAL HEALTH LEAD TRAINING

The Department of Education is offering grants for a senior member of staff of a school or college to access quality assured training. This training will ensure these senior mental health leads can implement an effective whole-school approach to mental health and wellbeing in your setting.

This training is for state-funded schools and colleges in England and courses are to meet the learning needs and preferences of senior leads whatever their level of experience, type of setting or location.

Hi! Need any help?

Our new Safeguarding Portal is available now - access to all systems from a single login

Give it a go



Read more about the grants for training [HERE](#). These grants are available until the 31st of May 2022.

UPDATING YOUR ORGANISATION'S MENTAL HEALTH AND WELLBEING POLICY

You can reflect on your setting's existing approach to mental health and wellbeing using the following:

- the National Children's Bureau (NCB) preparing for recovery: [self-review and signposting tool](#)
- an approach developed by Oldham Council, [the whole school and college approach to emotional health and mental wellbeing](#)
- [Leading Change](#), developed by the Anna Freud Centre

AUTHOR

Georgia Latief
Marketing Content Manager

SHARE



Related resources

[View all](#)



Our new Safeguarding Portal is available now - access to all systems from a single login

[Give it a go](#)



Mental health and wellbeing

Ten Top Tips to Help Improve your Mental Health and Wellbeing

[Read more](#)



Hi! Need any help?

Mental health and wellbeing

Supporting the Mental Health and Wellbeing of Staff

[Read more](#)

Our new Safeguarding Portal is available now - access to all systems from a single login

Give it a go



Mental health and wellbeing

How Can Organisations Support Children's Mental Health?

[Read more](#)

SOLUTIONS

SUPPORT

COMPANY

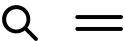
KNOWLEDGE BASE

Hi! Need any help?



Our new Safeguarding Portal is available now - access to all systems from a single login

Give it a go



Hi! Need any help?

