

Online workshops to inform changes to children and young people's mental health services in your area

Dear All

We're delighted to invite you to join the online Link Programme, funded by the Department for Education and led by the [Anna Freud Centre](#).

The programme brings together education and mental health professionals in Kent so that more children and young people get the help and support they need, when they need it.

As we move into the recovery phase of COVID-19, this programme is the starting point for creating systemic and sustainable change in children and young people's mental health, whilst delivering on the ambitions of the NHS Long Term Plan.

[Read more about how the programme could benefit your setting](#)

In the autumn term, the Link Programme is being delivered online adopting a blended learning approach. There will be two live online workshops of 2 hours each, delivered around six weeks apart. Online modules will be available at least one week in advance and you will need to complete these before attending the live workshops. There will be approximately 2 hours of self-study before workshop 1 and an additional 3 hours in advance of workshop 2.

The workshops are not training, but a facilitated discussion using an evidence-based framework that captures the effectiveness of joint working across your locality. From the framework you will draw up long term action plans for systemic change across your area, coordinated by your local Clinical Commissioning Group (CCG).

Due to the online nature of the workshops, we need to limit numbers to one representative from each setting. This must be a member of your senior leadership team, ideally your Headteacher or a Deputy Head. The same representative will need to attend both workshops and complete the self-study modules prior to each session.

How to get involved:

In Kent, the online workshops are only open to those who have not attended before. Dates are below:

Cohort 1

Workshop 1: Tuesday 20th October 9:30-11:30

Workshop 2: Tuesday 1st December 9:30-11:30

To register, please complete this form www.annafreud.org/linkprogramme/kent1

Cohort 2

Workshop 1: Tuesday 3rd November 9:30-11:30

Workshop 2: Tuesday 8th December 9:30-11:30

To register, please complete this form www.annafreud.org/linkprogramme/kent2

The sign-up form is managed by the Anna Freud Centre. **You must complete the form to receive access to the online modules and details of the live sessions.**

Your details will be passed to the Anna Freud Centre and their delivery partners for the purpose of running the workshops and evaluating the programme. [Read how your data will be processed and stored.](#)

If you require more information, please feel free to contact Becky Graves at cypmentalhealth.kent@nhs.net or 07443 774261.

We very much hope that you will participate in this important programme and we look forward to collaborating over the coming months.

Yours faithfully

Becky Graves
Kent Children's Commissioning Team
NHS Kent and Medway Clinical Commissioning Group