



STATEMENT OF INTENT – MENTAL HEALTH

Monkton Infants School is committed to safeguarding and promoting the mental health and wellbeing of every pupil. We implement a whole-school proactive approach which is shared by all staff and which supports the school motto of 'Aiming High'. The whole school culture of vigilance in Monkton Infants School creates a safe space where children are supported, listened to and valued; and ALL staff act immediately with the necessary level of intervention to create the most effective outcome for every individual child.

This is achieved by:

- Creating a culture of mutual respect amongst pupils and staff, eliminating prejudice towards any pupil experiencing mental health difficulties
- Identifying and making provision for any pupil who is experiencing mental health difficulties
- Incorporating learning about mental health and wellbeing as an integral part of the PSHE curriculum for all pupils
- Ensuring that members of the Board of Trustees, the Headteacher and staff members understand their responsibilities
- Collaborating with external agencies to provide support when required, e.g. health and social services.

As part of this, the school will:

- Identify pupils experiencing difficulties at the earliest possible stage
- Implement a graduated response if a pupil exhibits mental health difficulties,
- Undertake an assessment to establish a clear analysis of needs
- Set out a plan to determine how the pupil will be supported
- Take action to provide this support
- Regularly carry out reviews to ensure the effectiveness of the provision and implement any necessary changes
- Involve pupils and parents/ carers in any decision-making concerning support as appropriate
- Liaise with external agencies as required

The school recognises that there are many factors which contribute to/ result in mental health difficulties in children of a young age; these include, but are not limited to:

- Safeguarding concerns – including attendance issues
- Anxiety/ phobias
- Separation anxiety
- Eating problems

This Statement of Intent outlines the framework implemented by Monkton Infants School to ensure we do everything we can to meet the needs of all pupils, including those experiencing mental health difficulties at any time.