









## Information and support for children and young people

Mental health is all the things which go on within your mind such as your thoughts and feelings. Everybody has mental health.

You can have both good and bad mental health which can change day to day and at different times in your life. Sometimes though, you might decide that you need some help with what's going on in your head. This guide has been created to help you to know where you can go and who you can speak to.

Parents, carers, families and friends can also use this guide to look out for children and young people close to them and help them get the right support and advice.

-  **Self care** – things you can do to help look after your own mental health, emotions and wellbeing
-  **Talk to someone** – there's lots of people who you can talk to
-  **Family help and support** – information and help for all the family
-  **Doctor or nurse** – your GP practice can put you in touch with mental health services or talk to you about medication
-  **Child and adolescent mental health services (CAMHS)** – CAMHS help with specialist mental health concerns
-  **Crisis or emergencies** – it's important you know what to do in an emergency or crisis situation.





# Self care

How I might be feeling...	What can I do?
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Not sleeping well</li><li>• Anxious or worried</li><li>• Feeling down or sad</li><li>• Stressed</li><li>• Unmotivated or like you don't enjoy or want to do the things that you normally like to do</li><li>• Shy or low in confidence</li><li>• Lonely or like you want to make new friends</li><li>• Angry or tense</li><li>• Like you've noticed changes in how much your eating e.g. eating more or less</li></ul>	<p><b>Discover the five steps to mental wellbeing:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Connect with other people</li><li>• Be physically active</li><li>• Learn new skills</li><li>• Give to others</li><li>• Pay attention to the present moment (mindfulness)</li></ul> <p><b>Read up on the five steps to mental wellbeing at:</b> <a href="https://tinyurl.com/five-steps-wellbeing">https://tinyurl.com/five-steps-wellbeing</a></p> <p><b>Meet new people and try new things</b> There's lots of clubs and activities in your community who organise events and opportunities to help you to meet new people and try new things...</p> <p><b>Barnsley Family Service Directory:</b> Website: <a href="https://tinyurl.com/Barnsley-FSD">https://tinyurl.com/Barnsley-FSD</a> Telephone: 0800 0345 340</p> <p><b>Time Out Calderdale</b> Website: <a href="http://www.timeoutcalderdale.co.uk">www.timeoutcalderdale.co.uk</a> Telephone: 01422 345154 / 07388 990 229</p> <p><b>Kirklees Youth Central:</b> Website: <a href="http://www.youthcentral.co.uk">www.youthcentral.co.uk</a> Social media: search @youthcentralUK on Facebook, Twitter or Instagram</p> <p><b>Wakefield Youth Work Team:</b> Website: <a href="http://wfyouth.co.uk">http://wfyouth.co.uk</a> Telephone: 01924 302665</p>





# Self care

## What can I do?

### Download a new app. Below is a list of some NHS-approved apps:

- Catch It - learn how to manage feelings like anxiety, depression or anger
- Chill Panda - learn how to manage stress, and to worry less and feel better
- Clear Fear – help for managing anxiety and fears
- Cove - a music mood journal
- eQuoo – an adventure game focusing on emotional fitness
- MeeTwo – a safe place to chat to other teenagers about any issues
- Pzizz – helps you to fall asleep fast, stay asleep, and wake up refreshed
- Stress & Anxiety Companion – helping you manage stress and anxiety on-the-go
- The Worrinots – share and get help with worries, fears and anxieties
- ThinkNinja - learn about mental health and emotional wellbeing and develop skills to build resilience and stay well
- Thrive - use games to track your mood and learn to take control of stress and anxiety

### Teen Sleep Hub is a one stop shop for all you need to know about sleep.

If you're looking for advice on how to sleep better, would like tips on tweaking your routine or help to understand the science behind your sleep patterns, you'll find it all here. There's even a section for parents and carers! <https://teensleephub.org.uk>

### Young Minds have lots of advice and useful tips on how you can look after your mind.

From information, guidance and stories on coping with life to specific managing feelings and support. <https://youngminds.org.uk>

NHS.uk has advice and support for teenagers and students, alongside parents and carers too. [www.nhs.uk/mental-health/children-and-young-adults](http://www.nhs.uk/mental-health/children-and-young-adults)

## Did you know?



Our child and adolescent mental health (CAMHS) teams have also created lots of resources including workbooks and podcasts for children, young people, parents and carers. Visit our website and give them a try:

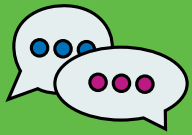
[www.southwestyorkshire.nhs.uk/wakefield-camhs-resources](http://www.southwestyorkshire.nhs.uk/wakefield-camhs-resources)

There's an app for young carers which is free to download on both Android and IOS. Created with young carers, the app shares useful information, self-care tips and links to support - all in one place. Search 'Young carers support app' on your Play or Google store to download.



# Talk to someone

How I might be feeling...	What can I do?
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Low in mood, sad, tearful and really down</li><li>• Anxious and worrying a lot. This could include:<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>» Having panic attacks</li><li>» Dealing with something that scares you like a phobia</li><li>» Being very anxious to go out with your friends or family, or feeling like you don't fit in or want to talk and socialise with others</li><li>» Dealing with something traumatic or upsetting that has happened to you, even if it happened years ago</li></ul></li><li>• Really stressed and like you can't relax</li><li>• Finding it difficult to manage your feelings, such as anger</li><li>• Problems with sleeping such as sleepless nights, waking in the night or waking up early</li><li>• Difficulties with relationships with friends or family</li><li>• Dealing with the death of someone or something close to you</li><li>• Using drugs or alcohol to try and cope with your emotions</li><li>• Like you've noticed changes in how much you're eating e.g., eating more or less.</li></ul>	<p><b>Kooth is a free, anonymous online counselling and support service for young people aged up to 25 in Calderdale, Kirklees and Wakefield.</b> It also has online support such as a magazine where young people can share their personal stories and experiences, alongside discussion boards. <a href="http://www.kooth.com">www.kooth.com</a>.</p> <p><b>Talk to someone at your school or college.</b> This could be a teacher, counsellor, nurse or any member of staff. School and college staff have links to mental health and wellbeing support, you may even have a counselling service within your school or college too.</p> <p><b>Talking therapies provide counselling, therapies, online support and workshops.</b> You have to be a certain age to use talking therapies and must be registered with a GP. Contact your nearest talking therapies on:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• <b>Barnsley:</b> <a href="http://www.barnsley-talkingtherapies.nhs.uk">www.barnsley-talkingtherapies.nhs.uk</a> or call 01226 644900 (aged 16 and above)</li><li>• <b>Calderdale:</b> VitaMinds: <a href="https://tinyurl.com/VitaMinds">https://tinyurl.com/VitaMinds</a> or call 0333 0153 494 (aged 18 and above)</li><li>• <b>Kirklees:</b> <a href="http://www.kirklees-talkingtherapies.nhs.uk">www.kirklees-talkingtherapies.nhs.uk</a> or call 01484 343700 (aged 17 and above)</li><li>• <b>Wakefield:</b> <a href="https://tinyurl.com/Wakefield-IAPT">https://tinyurl.com/Wakefield-IAPT</a> or call 01924 234 860 (aged 16 and above).</li></ul> <p><b>There's also people you can talk to in your community too.</b> This includes...</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• <b>Barnsley:</b> Barnsley Mental Health Support Team is a free and confidential emotional health and wellbeing service for young people in secondary school: <a href="https://tinyurl.com/Barnsley-MHST">https://tinyurl.com/Barnsley-MHST</a> or call 01904 666371</li><li>• <b>Calderdale:</b> Open Minds has information on groups and organisations who are here to help and listen: <a href="https://tinyurl.com/Open-Minds-Cal">https://tinyurl.com/Open-Minds-Cal</a></li></ul>



# Talking therapies

## What can I do?

- **Kirklees:** Thriving Kirklees ChatHealth is a text messaging service for young people aged 11–19 years old. Text 07520 618866 (Monday to Friday, 8am to 8pm). There's also support for parents and carers who can contact Thriving Kirklees nurses by text on 07520 618867
- **Wakefield:** WF-I-CAN shares information and advice as well as self-help tips that can increase your confidence and resilience. The website has a 'drop in and chat' message service where you can speak to someone at set times. Visit: <https://wf-i-can.co.uk>

**Night OWLS** is a confidential support line for children, young people, their parents and carers, who live in West Yorkshire. They provide overnight support and are here to listen from 8pm–8am every day:

Call them for free on 0800 1488244

Text them on 07984 376950

Or talk to them online at [www.wynightowls.org.uk](http://www.wynightowls.org.uk)

There's also more people you can speak to about your worries...

- **ChildLine:** online or telephone counselling. Free, 24/7 support for young people under 19 years old to help with any worry. Visit: [www.childline.org.uk](http://www.childline.org.uk) or call 0800 1111
- **FRANK:** friendly and confidential advice about drugs. Call 0300 123 6600 or text 82111, 24/7. Talk to someone on live chat, 2pm - 6pm, 7 days a week, on: [www.talktofrank.com](http://www.talktofrank.com)
- **Hope Again:** is a safe place where you can learn from other young people around how to cope with grief and loss: [www.hopeagain.org.uk](http://www.hopeagain.org.uk) or call for free on 0808 8081677 (Monday to Friday, 9:30am - 5:00pm)
- **The Mix:** support for young people through an online community, confidential helpline and counselling service: [www.themix.org.uk](http://www.themix.org.uk) or call 0808 808 4994.



## Did you know?

Young Minds have a helpline for parents and carers. Call for free on 0808 802 5544 (9:30am - 4pm, Monday to Friday). They also provide a webchat and email service too. Find out more: <https://tinyurl.com/YM-Parents-Help>







# Help and support for the family

## What can I do?

Sometimes wider family difficulties can affect our mental health, emotions and wellbeing. Support is there for parents, carers and families on a range of matters including early help, health visiting and school nursing, or for children or families with additional needs.

**Barnsley Family Information Service** provides free and confidential information and advice for the whole family:

- Website: <https://tinyurl.com/Barnsley-FIS>
- Facebook: @barnsleyfis
- Telephone: 0800 0345 340

**Calderdale early help teams** are here to help and support you, no matter how big or small your problem:

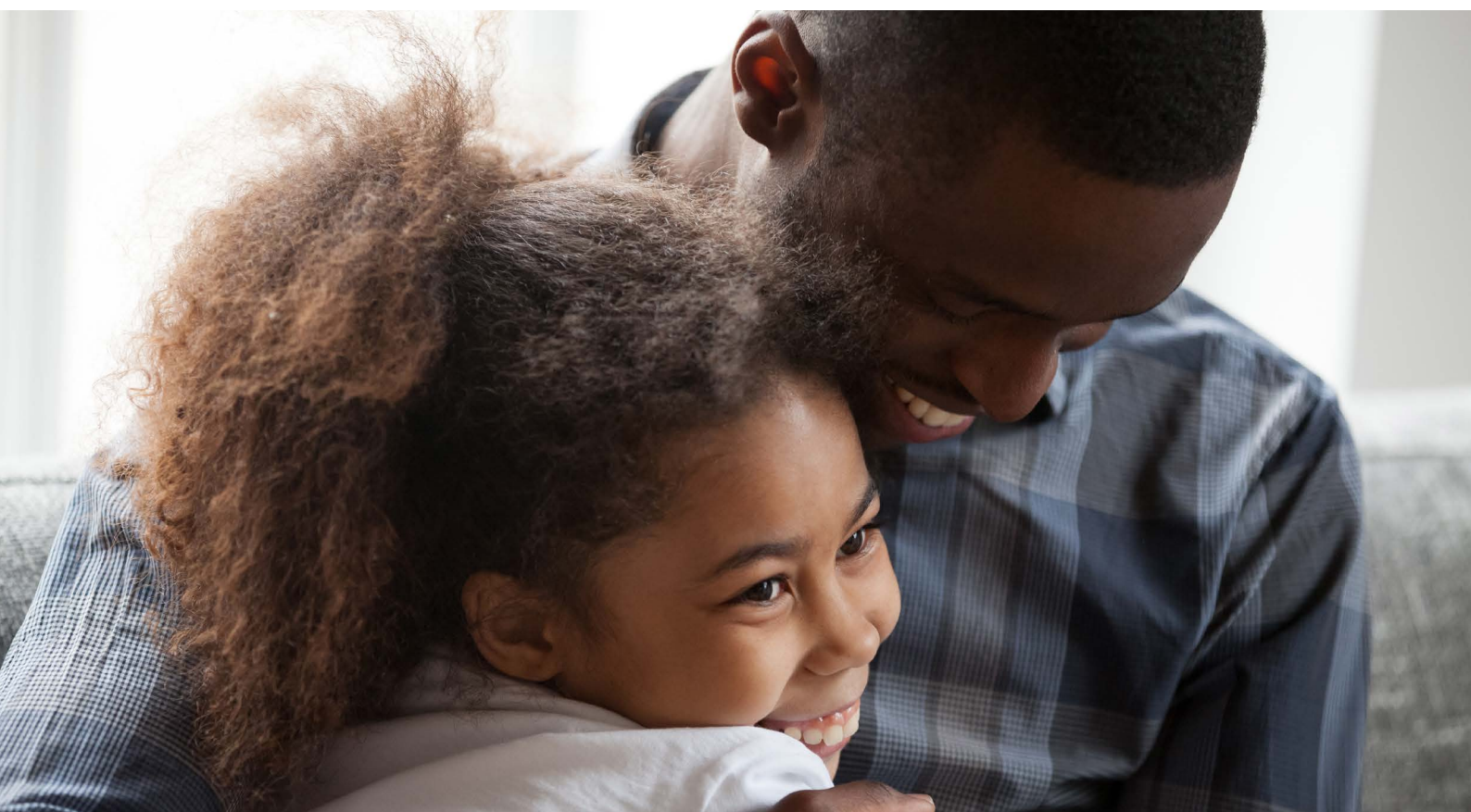
- Website: <https://tinyurl.com/Early-Help-Cal>

**Thriving Kirklees** is a partnership of local health and wellbeing organisations who work together to support children, young people and their families to thrive and be healthy:

- Website: [www.thrivingkirklees.org.uk](http://www.thrivingkirklees.org.uk)
- Facebook: @ThrivingKirklees
- Telephone: 0300 304 5555 (24 hours a day, 7 days a week)

**Wakefield Families Together** are a group of people and services who work together to make it easier for you to find and get the support you need, at the earliest opportunity:

- Website: [www.wakefieldfamielsttogether.co.uk](http://www.wakefieldfamielsttogether.co.uk)
- Email: [wakefieldfamielsttogether@wakefield.gov.uk](mailto:wakefieldfamielsttogether@wakefield.gov.uk)





# GP practice

How I might be feeling...	What can I do?
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Feeling really down and depressed every day for a long time</li><li>• Like you're anxious and worried every day and this is affecting your life</li><li>• That you have unwanted thoughts, feelings, and fears that stay in your mind. Sometimes you may even have to do things such as counting, checking on things, saying words repeatedly, or following a strict routine to help ease these</li><li>• Hurting yourself on purpose (self-harming), or having thoughts of hurting or injuring yourself</li><li>• Losing your appetite or wanting to eat more than usual, or exercising more than usual</li><li>• That you've tried other support which hasn't helped.</li></ul>	<p><b>Book an appointment with your GP practice – you could be seen by a doctor or nurse.</b></p> <p>Support from your doctor or nurse might be all the help you need. But if not, they can put you in touch with, or make a referral to, other services who can help such as child and adolescent mental health services (CAMHS).</p> <p>They can also talk to you about prescribing medication that may help you too.</p>

## Did you know?



If you're worried about speaking to your doctor or nurse about problems with food or eating, BEAT has created a guide that can help you prepare: [www.beateatingdisorders.org.uk](http://www.beateatingdisorders.org.uk). You can also call their Youthline for more support on 0808 801 0711 (365 days a year from 9am–8pm during the week, and 4pm–8pm on weekends and bank holidays).





# Child and adolescent mental health services (CAMHS)


How I might be feeling...	What can I do?
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Sad, depressed, teary or down every day for a long time</li><li>• Having unwanted and repetitive thoughts and fears or actions and behaviours</li><li>• Hearing voices or seeing, feeling, tasting or smelling things that aren't there (hallucinations)</li><li>• Unable to manage your worries and anxieties</li><li>• Hurting yourself on purpose (self-harming), or having thoughts of hurting or injuring yourself</li><li>• Suicidal thoughts – these can come and go</li><li>• Eating or problems with food and exercise</li><li>• Unable to cope after a scary or traumatic event or experience</li><li>• Extreme changes in mood, including having extreme highs and lows</li><li>• Doing risky, impulsive or violent things</li><li>• Like you have behaviours or additional needs such as having difficulties with:<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>» Reading or writing</li><li>» Making or keeping friendships and relationships</li><li>» Your memory</li><li>» Concentrating and being hyperactive</li><li>» Talking or communicating or understanding other people.</li></ul></li></ul>	<p>CAMHS are an NHS service that offers help and treatment for children and young people, aged up to 18 years old, who have difficulties with their mental health and wellbeing. They also support parents, carers and families of these children and young people too.</p> <p>CAMHS can help with many things depending on what help is needed. This may include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Giving information about other services and support</li><li>• Doing an 'assessment' – this means asking questions and getting to know more about any concerns</li><li>• Therapy and treatment. This could be one-to-one therapy, group work or family therapy</li><li>• They can also talk to you about medication</li><li>• They give urgent support when there is an immediate mental health risk.</li></ul> <p>To get support from CAMHS you need to be registered with a GP practice. You can contact your local CAMHS team on:</p> <p><b>Barnsley:</b> Parents and carers, and young people aged 16 and 17 can contact Barnsley CAMHS directly for support on 01226 644829 (9am – 5pm, Monday to Friday).</p> <p><b>Calderdale:</b> CAMHS services in Calderdale are provided by Open Minds. You can contact them on 01422 300 001 (9am – 5pm, Monday to Friday)</p> <p><b>Kirklees:</b> Through Thriving Kirklees on 0300 304 5555 (24 hours a day, 7 days a week) or through their website <a href="http://www.thrivingkirklees.org.uk">www.thrivingkirklees.org.uk</a></p> <p><b>Wakefield:</b> Parents and carers, and young people aged 16 and 17 can contact Wakefield CAMHS directly for support on 01977 735865 (9am – 5pm, Monday to Friday).</p>








# Crisis or emergency situations

How you might be feeling...	What can I do?
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Like you are going to seriously harm or injure yourself or other people</li><li>• Like you want to die or are suicidal</li><li>• Like you are extremely distressed or upset and are seeing extreme changes in your behaviour</li><li>• Seriously harmed, hurt or injured yourself</li></ul> <p><b>Did you know?</b> </p> <p>Charities can help people in a mental health crisis too. This includes parents and carers who are worried about a child or young person:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• <b>Childline:</b> Free, confidential support, available any time. Call 0800 1111</li><li>• <b>Papyrus:</b> Contact the HOPELINEUK, 9am to midnight every day on 0800 068 4141. Or text 07860039967 or email <a href="mailto:pat@papyrus-uk.org">pat@papyrus-uk.org</a></li><li>• <b>Samaritans:</b> Free to call, 24/7, 365 days a year. Call them on 116 123</li><li>• <b>Shout:</b> Text SHOUT to 85258 for free, confidential, 24/7 support</li><li>• <b>The Mix:</b> Text THEMIX to 85258 for free, 24/7 crisis support</li><li>• <b>YoungMinds:</b> Text YM to 85258 for free 24/7 support if you need urgent help.</li></ul>	<p>If you or someone else is seriously harmed or injured, always call 999 or go to your nearest A&amp;E.</p> <p>If you already get help for your mental health from a health or care organisation, please contact the team or professional that helps you. You may have a care or safety plan already which will tell you who to speak to in a crisis.</p> <p>You can also get support in a mental health crisis by:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• <b>Booking an emergency appointment with your doctor.</b> You can phone your doctor outside of normal working hours, but you will usually be sent to an out-of-hours service for help</li><li>• <b>Contacting Night OWLS;</b> available 8pm–8am every day for children, young people, parents and carers across West Yorkshire. Call free on 0300 2003900, text on 07984 392700 or go to the website to use the online chat: <a href="http://www.wynightowls.org.uk">www.wynightowls.org.uk</a></li><li>• <b>Calling NHS 111,</b> a 24-hour helpline.</li></ul> <p>If you don't currently use mental health services, you can contact our Single Point of Access (SPA) teams. They are here to help with urgent concerns regarding a child or young person who needs immediate support from a mental health professional:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• <b>Barnsley:</b> 01226 644829</li><li>• <b>Calderdale:</b> 01422 300001</li><li>• <b>Kirklees:</b> 0300 304 5555</li><li>• <b>Wakefield:</b> 01977 735865</li></ul> <p>Our SPA services are not open 24-hour. If you call them outside of their working hours you will be signposted elsewhere for help.</p>

It's helpful to plan ahead so that you know what you can do in a mental health crisis. This will help make sure you get the best help as quickly as possible.

Please take the time to read this guide and write down who you can contact in a mental health crisis, alongside how other people can help you during this time.

**Three numbers I can call:** 

For example: my support worker, a loved one or a helpline

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.....

**How can other people help me?** 

For example: call one of my contact numbers for me or give me a quiet space

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.....  
.....

Mind also have lots of information to help you plan for a mental health crisis:  
<https://tinyurl.com/mind-crisis-plan>

Tear this page off and keep it handy e.g. in your wallet or purse or on the fridge.

