

26 January 2023

Social, Emotional & Mental Health (SEMH) Provision

Dear Parent/Carer,

I am writing to you today to inform you that as a school, as part of our provision for all pupils at Hodge Hill College during the 2022/23 academic year, we are participating in a project as part of the East Birmingham Network of schools that aims to improve screening, intervention and long-term provision for students with social, emotional and mental health needs.

Our participation in the project, as a first precautionary step, has required us to conduct a screening process on all pupils on roll at Hodge Hill College in order to establish whether or not a child may be displaying signs of a potential social, emotional or mental health need that may potentially require further support to be provided by us a school or to signpost appropriate mental health services to families of our students so that we as a school community can build and develop our understanding of social, emotional and mental health needs and work in partnership with you as parents and families in order to ensure your children are receiving the best possible support.

On the next page of this letter, I am including steps and measures that you can take to ensure that you receive further support as quickly as possible and the contact details of several helpful organisations that can provide support in this area.

As the senior mental health lead for our school, I am also happy to meet with you and your children via a meeting request made via our school office in order to discuss appropriate next steps if you have concerns related to your child's mental health. This may include the recommendation of further support within the school, seeking external support from trained SEMH professionals, or supporting families with the completion of required referrals to receive the right support for your child.

If you would like any more information or support with regard to the mental health needs of your child, please do not hesitate to contact me at 0121 783 7807.

Yours faithfully,

J Broadrick

Mr J Broadrick
Assistant Headteacher: Inclusion

Steps that you can take to raise concerns about the mental health of your child

1. If you are concerned about the mental health and well-being of your child, please call the school on 0121 783 7807 or email enquiry@hodgehill.bham.sch.uk with a request to arrange an appointment with Mr Broadrick – Mental Health Lead. In addition to this, please also schedule an appointment for your child with your registered GP

2. If it is determined that your child needs additional support in improving their mental health then it is possible that we will provide in-school intervention to help in this area. This may be via mentorship through one of our partner organisations 'City of Birmingham Schools', or a tailored 1-1 or small group intervention with a member of our Enhanced Provision team.

3. If it is determined that your child would benefit more from the support of an external specialist trained in providing an outlet for students to speak with trained mental health professionals outside of school hours, then we may put you in contact with one of the following mental health providers:
 - KOOH (Online mental wellbeing community) <https://www.kooth.com/>
 - Young Minds (online young people's mental health) <https://www.youngminds.org.uk/>
 - Birmingham Pause drop-in clinics <https://forwardthinkingbirmingham.nhs.uk/pause/>
 - Birmingham healthy minds self-referral <https://www.bsmhft.nhs.uk/our-services/birmingham-healthy-minds/>