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Bwrdd Iechyd Prifysgol
Hywel Dda
University Health Board

Dyddiad/Date:

24th May 2024

Gwasanaethau Arbenigol Iechyd Meddwl Plant a Phobl Ifanc

Gwasanaethau Iechyd Meddwl ac Anableddau Dysgu
Ty Llewelyn, Ysbyty Cyffredinol Glangwili
Heol Dolgwili, Caerfyrddin, Sir Gaerfyrddin, SA31 2AF

Specialist Child & Adolescent Mental Health Services

Mental Health & Learning Disabilities Directorate
Ty Llewelyn, Glangwili General Hospital, Dolgwili Road,
Carmarthen, Carmarthenshire, SA31 2AF

Dear Parents/Carers,

It is likely that many parents and carers will be concerned about the impact of the recent critical incident at Ysgol Dyffryn Aman on their child, and many parents and carers may be directly emotionally impacted themselves. Such events can cause some children, young people and adults to experience distress, and may threaten to overwhelm their capacity to cope.

There has been a commendable community response to this incident in coming together under challenging circumstances. Specialist Child & Adolescent Mental Health Service (S-CAMHS) have been carefully considering, among other agencies, the support that we can most helpfully provide alongside that which has already been put in place at this point. In the first instance, we would like to offer an opportunity to work together with parents and carers following this incident to come alongside and support any young people affected.

This will involve an online discussion about what might be useful to know and what may be helpful for supporting children who are experiencing any distress, via Microsoft Teams on the following date:

Tuesday, 11th June 2024, 12:30pm – 14pm

This meeting can be accessed on the day by following the below link, or by scanning the QR code overleaf:

https://teams.microsoft.com/l/meetup-join/19%3ameeting_MjAwYTJlNTQyMzJlNC00MWRjLTkwYjMtYTc2NTMwNjYyODA5%40thread.v2/0?context=%7b%22Tid%22%3a%22bb5628b8-e328-4082-a856-433c9edc8fae%22%2c%22Oid%22%3a%222087c8aa-98c4-49f0-82a2-2cdbea601cdc%22%7d

The session will be informed by research and best practice in providing a compassionate response to this serious incident that may have affected children and young people in your care. There will be an opportunity for discussion, and information will be provided about

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Corporate Offices, Ystwyth Building,
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Cadeirydd dros dro/Interim Chair
Mrs Judith Hardisty
Prif Weithredwr dros dro/Interim
Chief Executive
Prof Phil Kloer

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the routes for further support where this is needed.

If you are unable to attend and have any concerns regarding an impact on your child's mental health following this incident, you may discuss this with the school in the first instance, who will be able to link in and discuss in regular S-CAMHS Schools In-Reach consultation sessions for advice and information on support options.

We will be sending out further communication following next week's parent/carer session on contact details for drop-in consultation with a trauma-trained clinician, to discuss any concerns relating to your child's mental health directly stemming from the recent incident, signposting information, and discussion of possible intervention options that are available where this is needed.

Please see the attached letter of consent for young person and/or parent/carer consent should you wish for your child to be discussed in consultation.

Yours sincerely,

Specialist Child & Adolescent Mental Health Services (S-CAMHS)
Hywel Dda University Health Board



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Dear Parent/Carer/Guardian,

Re: Consent for discussion of your child with School in-Reach

You are receiving this letter because your child's school wishes to discuss your child's wellbeing and/or mental health needs with us, to explore what further steps they can take to support your child's wellbeing and access to learning.

Who are we/what do we do?

We are School in-Reach (SiR), a Welsh Government funded service provided by the NHS, within the Specialist Child and Adolescent Mental Health Service (S-CAMHS). We provide support to schools in the area so that they can improve their support to the wellbeing and mental health needs of the pupils in their care.

We offer advice, consultation, and training to school staff around pupil wellbeing and mental health. SiR Practitioners don't meet with or speak with children and families directly during the consultation process. Where there are other professionals already involved in your child's support, we may invite them to join.

The school remain responsible for any plans we agree and for the ongoing educational support for your child. Your child's GP continues to hold responsibility for any health, including mental health support needs. A Schools In-Reach consultation meeting does not constitute a referral to S-CAMHS.

Consent

In giving consent for the school to discuss your child's support needs with us, you can expect the following from us:

- **Confidentiality:** Information discussed between professionals will be kept confidential. SiR will keep a record of any discussions about your child on our S-CAMHS health records to ensure continuity of support and safety in any future care that is offered.
- **Keeping you informed:** The SiR practitioner will write a brief outline of the discussion we hold with the school, including any actions or changes the school agree to put in place. We will copy in any other professionals involved, including your child's GP. Any recommendations we make in our summary do not imply that these will be funded by S-CAMHS or Hywel Dda University Health Board.
- Consent will remain valid for any future discussions unless revoked.

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What should I do if I have any concerns about this?

Should you have any concerns and wish to discuss these, please approach the school in the first instance to discuss these with them.

Parental thoughts/concerns surrounding child’s mental health/wellbeing (optional):

Please sign below if you consent for the school to discuss your child’s support needs with us:

Consent given by Parent/Carer.....

To discuss (child’s name).....DoB.....

Address.....
.....

School attended.....Date.....

Signed by staff member.....

Date.....