William Harding School Wellbeing Newsletter

Summer 1 2023





MENTAL HEALTH AWARENESS WEEK

Mental Health Awareness Week 15th -21st May 2023



Sometimes it will seem obvious when someone is going through a hard time, but there is no simple way of knowing if they have a mental health concern. Some symptoms are common but no two people are the same and will react differently to situations. Talking to someone is often the first step to noticing if their behaviour or demeanour has changed. This way you can find out what is troubling you.

What can I do to get help? is a question we often get asked, here are some tips for supporting someone you feel may have a mental health concern.

- Set aside time with no distractions. It's important to provide a nonjudgmental space with no distractions.
- Let them share as much or as little as they want to. Let them lead the discussion at their own pace and don't pressure them.
- Don't try to diagnose their symptoms. Try not to jump in too quickly with your own diagnosis or solutions
- **Keep questions open ended.** Ask 'Why don't you tell me how you're feeling?' Give them to process the question and respond before jumping in with another question.
- Talk about self-care. Discuss ways to practice self-care and ask if they
 feel anything would be helpful. Encouraging a healthy lifestyle and a
 healthy sleep routine.
- Listen carefully to what they tell you. Repeat what they have said back to them to ensure you have understood it, this shows you have listened and understood.
- Offer help in seeking professional advice or information. You might want to offer to go to the GP with them or help them talk to a friend or family member, don't take control allow them to make decisions.
- **Know your limits.** It's important to take care of yourself too, give yourself time to manage and process what they have shared.

Ways to incorporate mental health into your daily routine.

Allow time in your day to practice self-care.

Spend time connecting with family or colleagues.

Incorporate relaxation into your day.

Take time to observe your feelings and emotions.

Write down 3 things at the end of each day that you are grateful for or you have achieved.

If you experience negative thoughts, write them down and challenge them.

Eat a balanced diet and incorporate exercise.



Have a look at the Action for Happiness Joyful June calendar, see how many you can tick off.





We will drive change towards a mentally healthy society for all, and support communities, families and individuals to live mentally healthier lives, with a particular focus on those at greatest risk.







