

## CYPE(5)-23-19 - Paper to note 2

Kirsty Williams AC/AM  
Y Gweinidog Addysg  
Minister for Education



Llywodraeth Cymru  
Welsh Government

Ein cyf/Our ref: MA(P)KW/2034/19

Lynne Neagle AM  
Chair  
Children, Young People and Education Committee  
National Assembly for Wales  
Cardiff.  
CF99 1NA.

1 July 2019

Dear Lynne

During my evidence session to Committee on 20 June on progress against the Mind Over Matter Report we discussed adverse childhood experiences (ACEs) and the training the ACE Hub has provided to teachers. I agreed to provide a note to the Committee on the numbers of schools and teaching staff who have received ACE training.

The ACE Hub has provided the attached information. However the Hub operates a cascade model, whereby train the trainers, ACE Ambassadors and Leaders of Learning are up-skilled to deliver training to others in their area. The pilot area for this work is the EAS Consortium, where we expect all primary schools to have received Phase 1 training by the end of the school summer term. EAS has been collecting data as they will be formally evaluated for Phase 1. The Hub does not collect data on how many staff currently receive this in each area of Wales. To obtain this data the Hub will need to ask individual trainers, schools and consortia and I have asked my officials to liaise with the Hub to see if, and by when, this data can be made available. It is not mandatory for schools to receive training, though all schools will be offered the opportunity. Each of the consortia areas are working with the Hub to agree a model that works for their schools. Training is available to all staff working in the school setting and has also been delivered to Estyn Inspectors and others. I will provide a further update to the Committee in due course.

However, I also want to point out that the ACE training, whilst important, is just one aspect of training being delivered. We are looking to build on this as part of our whole school approach so that we can meet, as far as we can, the Committee key recommendation that everyone who cares, volunteers or works with children and young people is trained in emotional and mental health awareness. In this respect the CAMHS school in-reach pilots are also contributing to this agenda by training school staff to identify and understand low level mental health issues. The Minister for Health and I have indicated that we are keen to roll out some of the early good practice arising from the pilots. You are also aware that we are engaging with universities to develop child development, mental health and additional learning needs training modules.

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Rydym yn croesawu derbyn gohebiaeth yn Gymraeg. Byddwn yn ateb gohebiaeth a dderbynnir yn Gymraeg yn Gymraeg ac ni fydd gohebu yn Gymraeg yn arwain at oedi.

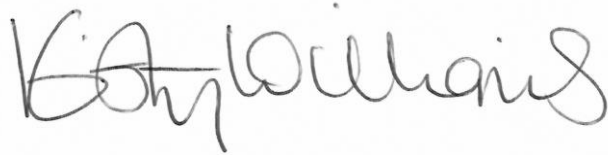
We welcome receiving correspondence in Welsh. Any correspondence received in Welsh will be answered in Welsh and corresponding in Welsh will not lead to a delay in responding.

Taken together all this activity will contribute to professionals having a better understanding of the issues children face and go a considerable way towards meeting the Mind Over Matter recommendation.

I know you will maintain your scrutiny of our approach and contribute to our work in this area, both as Chair of the Committee and member of our Task and Finish and Stakeholder Reference Groups.

I am copying this letter to the Minister for Health for information.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Kirsty Williams', written in a cursive style.

**Kirsty Williams AC/AM**

Y Gweinidog Addysg  
Minister for Education

## **ACE Training**

The Adverse Childhood Experiences Support Hub is using a train the trainer cascade model with each education consortia. EAS is the pilot consortium and their approach and data is the basis for the evaluation of the Phase 1 training. This is due to report later in the year. EAS have committed to all schools in their region receiving the training. As EAS is the pilot consortia the Hub has accurate numbers for this area, but would need to seek information from the leads of the other consortia, and in some cases individual local authorities where they have decided not to access their training via the consortium, to get an overall picture.

What the Hub has for the others, are numbers of ambassadors and other staff they have trained to deliver the cascade training to schools in each area. Training events are completed in INSET days. Training is not mandatory so is based on the commitments made by each consortia, or local authority based on their perceived need and availability of time for INSET.

### **Wales view**

Since the ACE Support Hub started, over 300 ACE Ambassadors (champions for driving the ACE agenda forward in schools), teachers and schools leads have been trained, 140 Estyn inspectors and challenge advisors, and 95 'Train the Trainers'.

### **EAS**

256 schools have received Phase 1 (awareness), with 15 left to go which will be completed by the EAS lead by the end of the summer term, ensuring that by September 2019 all EAS schools have had ACE Awareness training.

70 ACE Ambassadors have been trained as trainers to deliver Phase 1 and 2 (applying the knowledge) across the clusters of the 271 schools in total. Phase 2 is currently being cascaded out.

### **ERW**

50 Cluster Leaders of Learning trained as trainers for Phase 1 and 2 – number of schools delivered unknown so far.

72 trainers trained to deliver Phase 1 and 2 across Powys schools. 50 Designated Safeguarding Officers have been trained as train-the-trainers to deliver Phase 1 and 2 across schools in Neath Port Talbot.

### **CSC**

75 train-the-trainers trained to deliver Phase 1 and 2 across schools in CSC. All Cardiff schools have sent one trainer from each primary and secondary school to become a trainer to deliver Phase 1 and 2. 25 Spectrum Team (an all Wales programme funded by Welsh Government and delivered by teachers in primary and secondary schools, promoting healthy relationships and raising awareness about domestic abuse, sexual violence and violence against women) teachers to be trainers in Phase 1.

### **GWE**

The ACE Hub Director will be meeting the Directors of Education in this region in July to identify a way forward for training. The Hub will be happy to deliver training via the consortium or on an individual bases if that is preferred by LAs— this is a model the Hub has used for Neath Port Talbot and Powys.