

## **Parent and Carer Event**

## Supporting a Young Person in Crisis

Hampshire CAMHS i2i Service



## Overview:

- Discuss signs and symptoms demonstrated by young people when in crisis
- Tips of how to communicate with and support a young person who discloses they are in crisis/ struggling or if you have concerns a young person may not be coping
- Where to access further support/advice

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## What is Crisis?

- Crisis is subjective; unique to each person both in terms of what triggers and crisis and what it looks/ feels like
- In a nutshell- feeling overwhelmed and unable to cope with intense thoughts and feelings
- Can lead the young person to behave in reactive, impulsive or risky ways.

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## Signs and symptoms



See handout in packs

Crisis is not just self-harm or suicide
Self-harm does not mean someone is suicidal

Self-harm is more than just cutting and burning:

Head butting

taking drugs/ alcohol

Not eating/ drinking

Taking risks

- Tying ligatures

- Skin picking/ scratching

- Risky sex

- Getting into fights

- Neglecting oneself

- Ingesting substances

- not taking medication/

overmedicating

- over exercising

- hair pulling

biting self

#### N.I.C.E. definition:

"Self poisoning or injury irrespective of the apparent purpose of the act"

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### How does it feel?



Upset
Sad
Angry
Confused
Disappointed
Helpless
Worried
Numb

NORMAL ->

REQUIRES VALIDATION
Responses are important!

Camelot Enquiry 2008 found that for many young people disclosure of selfharm was a very negative experience Royal College of Psychiatrists surveyed 509 people of all ages & found that a significant number of patients had been blamed for wasting time as staff felt their problems were self-inflicted

Comment from a young person: "I have not self-harmed in order to annoy staff, but rather because something is very, very wrong inside"

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## Confidentiality; what's the score?



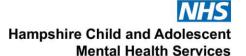
- 1) Make sure the young person knows you are going to share information including:
- What information
- With whom you are sharing it with
- 2) Only share what is relevant, appropriate and necessary
- 3) Be clear what is fact and opinion.
- 4) Recognise and consider the value of advocates; support young people to access advocates
- 5) Try to include young people in meetings about them and think about how to make these as young person centred as possible
- 7) Think about how you would feel if you were in their shoes

More info: http://www.ayph-behealthy.org.uk/confidentiality-comic/



# If a young person makes a disclosure or is in crisis

- Protect time and space; without interruption; think about environment
- Listen calmly, without judgement or rushing to solutions
- Validate the emotion, not necessarily the behaviour
- If talking is hard, trying writing or texting; identify who's best to have the conversation
- Provide information about where or how to access appropriate support
- Encourage young people to make safe, informed decisions
- Support the young person to disclose to others, or report concerns if and when necessary
- Parents think about sharing this with schools/ others who regularly support your young person- a joined up approach is best
- Don't make promises you can't keep!



## Hospital

Should a young person go to hospital?

- A&E- Accident and Emergency; should only go if absolutely necessary
- · Hospital environments can be distressing and antagonistic
- How else could the situation be safely managed? Do they have a crisis plan?

If a young person does need to go to hospital:

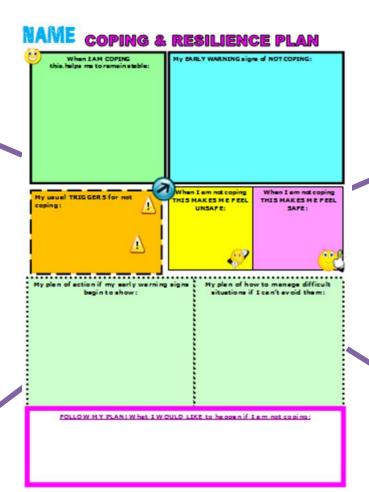
- Ensure an adult who knows the young person attends with the young person (ideally, someone the young person has identified)
- Ensure appropriate adults have been informed e.g., parent/ carer, social worker, other professional
- Think about self-soothe resources and techniques to reduce anxiety (e.g., headphones for music, phone for distraction)- ask the young person what might help
- Think about what follow up care and support the young person might need

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What wellness looks like

Triggers for not coping

Plan of action when early warning signs present



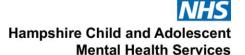
Hampshire Child and Adolescent
Montal Health Services

Early Warning Signs of Not Coping

Factors that increase risk vs increase safety

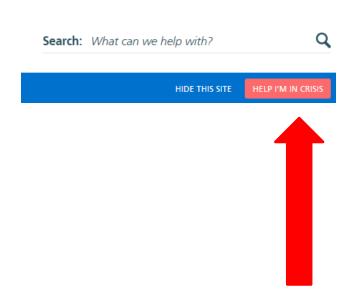
Follow my plan if I am not coping

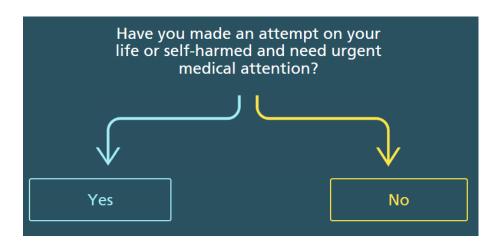
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## Help I'm in Crisis

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## Hampshire Child and Adolescent Mental Health Services







#### **Phone and Text Helplines:**

# Freephone Samaritans 116 123

(24 hours a day 7 days a week)

#### **Freephone Childline**

0800 1111 (24 hours a day, 7 days a week)

## **Young Minds Parent Helpline**

0808 802 5544 (Mon-Fri 9.30am-4pm)

#### **Free Young Minds Text Crisis:**

Text: YM to 85258 (24 hours a day, 7 days a week)

#### **Websites:**

www.stayingsafe.net www.papyrus-uk.org www.harmless.org.uk www.lifesigns.org.uk www.thecalmzone.net

#### Free Apps:

Stay Alive
Well Mind
Mood Tools – Depression Aid
What's Up
Stop Breath Think
Worry Time