

## **AVAILABLE HELP FOR TEENS IN NEED OF SUPPORT** produced by Dr Alison Cowan Updated June 2025

Many of the listed resources are not commissioned or officially endorsed but may still be found useful

- Herts County Council Services for Young People HCC SfYP (formerly YC Hertfordshire) 11-17yr
  - o 0300 123 7538; text: 07860 022943
  - o Email: <u>SfYP@hertfordshire.gov.uk</u> <u>yc@hertfordshire.gov.uk</u>
  - https://www.servicesforyoungpeople.org/

### **MENTAL HEALTH SUPPORT**

- Helplines
  - o Samaritans: www.samaritans.org 08457 90 90 90
  - Shout: crisis texting service: text 85258; <u>www.giveusashout.org</u>
  - o Childline 0800 11 11 www.childline.org.uk <19yr
  - o HPFT Single point of access for child and adolescent mental health: 0800 6444 101
  - Hertfordshire Night Light service: helpline: Friday-Monday: 7pm -1am: 01923 256391: 18yr+

Now 24/7

Hertfordshire commissioned therapeutic support	
COMMUNITY COUNSELLING	CREATIVE THERAPIES
Hertfordshire Network  5-19yrs (in-person or online)  www.withyouth.org/our-counselling-service/	Signpost we're here for young people 5-19yrs (in-person or online) www.signpostcounselling.org.uk/creative-therapies/

- Herts Mind Network: www.hertsmindnetwork.org; 020 3727 3600
  - With YOUth service for 5-18yrs incl: Children & Young People's Digital Wellbeing Service, including helpline, instant messaging, one to one and group support and digital therapeutic gaming app:
    - www.withyouth.org/ 0208 189 8400 Daily including weekends 2pm-10pm
    - Lumi Nova Digital Therapeutic Gaming App for ages 7-12
- The Sandbox: Sandbox Homepage (mindler.co.uk) Online Mental Health Digital Advice and Guidance service 10-25s Website 24/7; Therapy sessions: 7am to 8pm (last one finishing at 9pm) Monday to Sunday; Live Chat: Mon-Fri:9am-6pm
- Mind in Mid Herts: local charity supporting 16+yr with their mental health
  - o www.mindinmidherts.org.uk; 01727 865070
- Youth Talk 13-25yr: counselling service for those living, working or at school in St Albans district
  - o 01727 868684; <u>www.youthtalk.org.uk</u>
- Signpost: 10-25yr South and West Hertfordshire
  - 01923 239495 or 07444 768078 12 counselling sessions; <u>www.oneymca.org/signpost</u>
- HarpendenPlus Partnership
  - o 07985 330941; 01582 623676
- Relate: North Herts www.relate.org.uk 0300 100 1234
- Tilehouse Counselling: 13-19yrs <u>www.tilehouse.org</u> 01462 440 244 North Herts
- Young People's Healthy Hub: social prescribing function Young People's Healthy Hub (stevenage.gov.uk)
- Youth Link: 10-24yrs South and West Hertfordshire social prescribing function
  - https://www.watfordfccsetrust.com/project/youth-link/ 07510 927143
- Watford FC Community Sports & Education Trust programmes
  - Youth Link (10-24yrs) social prescribing links CYP to sustained activity to improve their physical and mental health – SW Herts
  - o **Empower**: (9-12yrs) 6 month project that aims to improve mental health through physical activity
  - o Kicks: (8-18yrs) aims to inspire CYP to achieve their potential and improve wellbeing
- **Togetherall: 16+yrs** <u>www.togetherall.com</u> an evidence-based, clinically moderated, online 24/7 peer-to-peer mental health community, for residents of Hertfordshire

- HCC SfYP Supporting You Programme: 11-17yrs
  - o <a href="https://www.ychservicesforyoungpeople.org/support-for-young-people/support-with-health-and-emotional-wellbeing/supporting-you/">https://www.ychservicesforyoungpeople.org/support-for-young-people/support-with-health-and-emotional-wellbeing/supporting-you/</a>
  - 12 CBT skills delivered over a weekly programme of 7 weeks
- HCT Children's Wellbeing Practitioners Team: 5-19yrs trained to deliver manualised guided self-help interventions for mild-moderate anxiety, behavioural difficulties, and low mood. <u>Search | Hertfordshire Community NHS Trust</u> (hct.nhs.uk)
- Hertfordshire Talking Therapies: 16+yr: free confidential talking therapy and practical support: via self-referral or GP
  - o www.hpft-iapt.nhs.uk/; 0800 6444 101
- CYPMHs/Public Health website: <a href="https://www.healthyyoungmindsinherts.org.uk/">https://www.healthyyoungmindsinherts.org.uk/</a>
- **CYPMHs:** www.hpft.nhs.uk/: 0800 6444 101; NHS111 option 2
- THE MIX: <25YR: free confidential multi-channel service that aims to find young people the best help
  - O 0808 808 4994 (freephone 7 days a week 3pm-12am); 1-2-1 chat; <u>www.themix.org.uk</u>
- NHS Every Mind Matters: https://www.nhs.uk/every-mind-matters/ emotional wellbeing and mental health resources
- Anna Freud Information Mental Health Treatment Options: <a href="https://www.annafreud.org/resources/children-and-young-peoples-wellbeing/understanding-treatment-options/">https://www.annafreud.org/resources/children-and-young-peoples-wellbeing/understanding-treatment-options/</a>
- What's Up app: teaches simple strategies to help cope with a wide range of mental health issues
- Sane: www.sane.org.uk 0300 304 7000
- Young Minds: <a href="https://www.youngminds.org.uk">www.youngminds.org.uk</a>; Crisis messenger: text YM 85258

Lots of excellent resources on website

- Mind: www.mind.org.uk: 0300 123 3393; text 86463: national charity Monday Friday 9-6pm
- Side by Side: <a href="https://sidebyside.mind.org.uk/">https://sidebyside.mind.org.uk/</a> supportive online community through MIND >18yrs
- Stem4: <u>www.stem4.org.uk</u> teenage mental health charity
- Childline: www.childline.org.uk Childline For Me app: https://www.childline.org.uk/toolbox/for-me/
- Saneline: www.sane.org.uk 0300 304 7000 mental health support and guidance >16yrs
- Help for vulnerable people with additional needs: Guidepost Trust: https://guideposts.org.uk/
- Mental Health Complex Needs service: Turning Point <a href="https://www.turning-point.co.uk/home.html">https://www.turning-point.co.uk/home.html</a>
- Muslim youth helpline: www.myh.org.uk
- Mindfulness app for all ages: Smiling Minds; Headspace
- It's OK to say: mental health support: www.itsoktosay.org.uk
- DBT Self-help Resource: www.dbtselfhelp.com
- Help with anxiety:
  - o www.anxietyuk.org.uk 08444 775 774
  - o <a href="https://www.anxietycanada.com/">https://www.anxietycanada.com/</a> : help with anxiety
  - Mindshift app: help with anxiety
  - SAM app: help with anxiety
  - o Clear Fear app: Help with anxiety management: <a href="https://www.clearfear.co.uk/">https://www.clearfear.co.uk/</a>
  - o No Panic: 13-20yrs: Help with panic and anxiety <a href="www.nopanic.org.uk">www.nopanic.org.uk</a>; No Panic app; 0330 606 1174 youth line
    - Daily 10am-10pm
  - $\circ$  OCD
    - OCD Action <a href="https://ocdaction.org.uk/">https://ocdaction.org.uk/</a> 0300 636 5478;
    - OCD UK <a href="https://www.ocduk.org/">https://www.ocduk.org/</a> 01332 588112
- Help with self-harm
  - o Harmless: <u>www.harmless.org.uk</u>
  - o Alumina (previously SelfharmUK): www.selfharm.co.uk 14-19yr free online support
  - Self Injury Support: https://www.selfinjurysupport.org.uk
    - Helpline 0808 800 8088 webchat or TESS text 07800 472 908 Tuesday-Thursday 7-9.30pm
  - o Lifesigns: <a href="http://www.lifesigns.org.uk/">http://www.lifesigns.org.uk/</a>
  - Calm Harm app: <a href="https://calmharm.co.uk/">https://calmharm.co.uk/</a> from 12yrs
  - o **distrACT app:** advice about SH and suicide <a href="https://www.expertselfcare.com/health-apps/distract/">https://www.expertselfcare.com/health-apps/distract/</a>

# • Help with suicidal thoughts

- o The OLLiE Foundation: <a href="https://theolliefoundation.org/">https://theolliefoundation.org/</a> suicide awareness, intervention and prevention training
- Hector's House: https://hectorshouse.org.uk/ information resource. Crisis texting service: text 85258
- PAPYRUS: (Prevention of Young Suicide) support for young people up to age 35yrs
  - www.papyrus-uk.org HOPELINEUK: 0800 068 4141 10-10pm weekdays; 2-10pm weekends
- CALM (Campaign Against Living Miserably) charity to help prevent male suicide: 15-35yrs
  - Helpline: 0800 585858: 5pm midnight 365 days of the year. www.thecalmzone.net
- Maytree: residential space for people in crisis www.maytree.org.uk 0207 236 7070
- o Saneline: https://www.sane.org.uk/ daily helpline 4pm to 10pm 0300 304 7000.
- Stay Alive App: Stay Alive App (hpft.nhs.uk) suicide prevention pocket resource
- o Help is at Hand: NHS resource www.supportaftersuicide.org.uk/help-is-at-hand

## Help with Eating Disorders

- o First Steps ED: https://firststepsed.co.uk/ early intervention eating disorder service in Hertfordshire
- O The Eating Disorders Association: www.b-eat.co.uk
- The National Centre for Eating Disorder: <u>www.eating-disorders.org.uk</u>

## • Help with addiction

Drug/alcohol issues

CGL: remote support: call 0800 652 3169 or email Herts@cgl.org.uk

- Spectrum (CGL): <a href="https://www.changegrowlive.org/spectrum-fyp-hertfordshire/info">https://www.changegrowlive.org/spectrum-fyp-hertfordshire/info</a>
- Frank 0800 776600: www.talktofrank.com
- The Living Room: <a href="https://www.livingroomherts.org/">https://www.livingroomherts.org/</a> >18yr and includes eating disorder
- Get Connected: www.getconnected.org.uk; helpline: 080 8808 4994 (1pm to 11pm).
- DrugWise: <a href="https://www.drugwise.org.uk/">https://www.drugwise.org.uk/</a> non-judgemental, evidence-based information about drugs
- Gambling
  - GamCare Hertfordshire: <a href="https://www.gamcare.org.uk/">https://www.gamcare.org.uk/</a>: Young people: <a href="https://www.bigdeal.org.uk">www.bigdeal.org.uk</a>
  - National Gambling Helpline: 0808 8020 133
- Gaming addiction: https://www.priorygroup.com/addiction-treatment/gaming-addiction-treatment
- o Gamblers Anonymous: support for friends and or family: www.gamblersanonymous.org.uk

## Help with bereavement

- o Coronavirus Bereavement guides: Coronavirus bereavement guides | Hertfordshire County Council
- NHS Guide and resources: <a href="https://www.nhs.uk/mental-health/children-and-young-adults/advice-for-parents/children-and-bereavement/">https://www.nhs.uk/mental-health/children-and-young-adults/advice-for-parents/children-and-bereavement/</a>
- www.Ataloss.org: signposts bereaved to bereavement services and information
- o www.thegoodgrieftrust.org
- o <u>www.griefencounter.org.uk</u>
- o www.childbereavementuk.org
- o www.cruse.org.uk: 0808 808 1677 Mon-Fri 9.30-5pm
- o <u>www.stand-by-me.org.uk</u>: Bereavement support for young people and families in North Herts
- Suicide Bereavement Support: resources in Hertfordshire
  - https://www.suicidepreventionherts.org.uk/Suicide-bereavement-support.aspx
  - https://chums.uk.com/hertfordshire-suicide-bereavement-service/
- o SOBS (Survivors of Bereavement By Suicide): national charity <u>www.uk-sobs.org.uk</u> 0300 111 5065

#### Help with debt

- Consumer Counselling Credit Services: <u>www.stepchange.org</u>
- o National Debtline: Tel: 0808 808 4000 www.nationaldebtline.org

### • Help with mental health of all types:

o **JustTalk:** <a href="https://www.justtalkherts.org/just-talk-herts.aspx">https://www.justtalkherts.org/just-talk-herts.aspx</a>

Updated regularly with support and resources

- Self-help resources
  - www.mentalhealth.org.uk/publications
  - https://web.ntw.nhs.uk/selfhelp/
  - https://www.camhs-resources.co.uk/

- **Hub of Hope**: mental health database: <u>www.hubofhope.co.uk</u>
- On My Mind: <a href="https://www.annafreud.org/on-my-mind/">https://www.annafreud.org/on-my-mind/</a> empowers young people to make informed choices about their mental health
- SafeSpace Mentoring Programme: through HCC and referral through professional
  - Meet with a volunteer mentor for an hour a week for 3-6 months
  - o Opportunity to talk about anything they wish to discuss or want advice on
  - o Safe Space, Mentoring programme | Hertfordshire MarketPlace
- New Leaf Wellbeing College: free educational support for >18yrs to enable better control of wellbeing
  - o www.newleafcollege.co.uk; students@newleafcollege.co.uk; 01442 864966

#### PHYSICAL AND SEXUAL HEALTH SUPPORT

- Kids Hub: offers information and support to parents and carers of disabled children aged 0-25yrs in Hertfordshire
  - o 01923 676549 www.kids.org.uk
- **DSPL** (Delivering Special Provision Locally): information about support and services for children and young people 0-25yrs with special educational needs and disabilities (SEND) in Hertfordshire
  - o <u>www.dspl7.org.uk</u> (St Albans, Harpenden and villages)
- Help with contraception and sexual health
  - In Hertfordshire: Sexual Health Hertfordshire
    - 0300 008 5522 www.sexualhealthhertfordshire.clch.nhs.uk
    - https://www.hertfordshire.gov.uk/services/Health-in-Herts/Sexual-health/Sexual-health.aspx
    - Text 07860 057369: HCC SfYP information relating to sexual health
    - Free condoms & advice for young people | Get It: www.getit.org.uk
  - o www.contraceptionchoices.org
  - o <u>www.brook.org.uk</u>; 0808 802 1234 Mon-Fri 9-7pm
  - www.fpa.org.uk;
  - o <u>www.sh24.org.uk</u>: includes free sexually transmitted infection (STI) testing >16yrs
  - o <u>www.test.hiv</u>: HIV testing
  - o BISH: www.bishuk.com/about-bish: guide to sex, love and you for everyone over 14.
  - O Scarleteen website: www.scarleteen.com: sex education for teens and emerging adults
- Help for LGBT+ community
  - o HCC SfYP LGBT website Young Pride in Herts: http://www.youngprideinherts.org/
  - The Proud Trust: <a href="https://www.theproudtrust.org/">https://www.theproudtrust.org/</a>
  - Switchboard: LGBT+ helpline: 0300 330 0630; <u>www.switchboard.org.uk</u>
  - Stonewall: national LGBT+ rights charity
    - www.stonewall.org.uk
  - Albert Kennedy Trust: charity for LGBT+ people who are homeless: <u>www.akt.org.uk</u>
- Abuse
  - o Herts Sunflower: <a href="https://www.hertssunflower.org/herts-sunflower.aspx">https://www.hertssunflower.org/herts-sunflower.aspx</a>
  - Herts SARC: Sexual violence or abuse <a href="https://www.hertssarc.org/">https://www.hertssarc.org/</a>
  - o <u>Sexual Violence Help and Advice (idas.org.uk)</u>
- Domestic Abuse
  - o Hertfordshire Domestic Abuse Helpline
    - Mon-Fri: 9-9pm; Weekends 9-4pm: 08 088 088 088
  - o The Hideout: <u>www.thehideout.org.uk</u>
- Health for Teens and Kids website
  - http://www.healthforteens.co.uk/
    - Herts Chat Health: 11-19yrs Text 07480 635050
  - o <a href="http://www.healthforkids.co.uk/">http://www.healthforkids.co.uk/</a>

STI tests and provision of oral contraception

SH:24: Increase in online

Operating as usual Monday-Friday 9-5pm

- Weight or body image concerns
  - BeeZee Bodies: <a href="http://beezeebodies.com/">http://beezeebodies.com/</a> also includes a teen clinic
  - o <u>Teenweightwise.com</u>
- Help for University Students: 'Thrive and Survive' guide
  - o <a href="https://www.justtalkherts.org/media/documents/thrive-and-survive.pdf">https://www.justtalkherts.org/media/documents/thrive-and-survive.pdf</a>
- Healthy Hubs: free information, advice and support to help you stay healthy and well:
  - o www.healthyhubs.org.uk

### **PARENTAL SUPPORT**

- Happy Maps: Reliable resources and help for parents on children's mental health
  - https://www.happymaps.co.uk/
- Anna Freud: advice and guidance for parents with children and young people struggling with mental health
  - o www.annafreud.org
- Anxiety UK: Children & Young People with Anxiety A guide for parents & Carers
  - o <a href="https://www.moodcafe.co.uk/media/19579/cyp">https://www.moodcafe.co.uk/media/19579/cyp</a> parents 1 2 web.pdf
- Family lives: national family support charity: help and support in all aspects of family life
  - o 0808 800 2222 (formally Parentline Plus) 24/7
  - o www.familylives.org.uk
- Young minds: supporting and empowering young minds
  - o <u>www.youngminds.org.uk;</u>
    - Helpline: 0808 802 5544: Mon-Fri 9.30-4pm; email parents@youngminds.org.uk; also online webchat
    - Parental advice and support for children up to 25yr
- MindEd: free educational resource on CYP with advice and information for families from experts
  - Health Education England <u>www.minded.org.uk</u>
- HealthTalk online: www.healthtalk.org patient and parents' experiences NSPCC: www.nspcc.org.uk
  - o help@nspcc.org.uk) professional counsellors 24/7 offering help, advice and support if worried about a child
  - o 0808 800 5000 )
- Vista: <a href="http://www.vistastalbans.org.uk/">http://www.vistastalbans.org.uk/</a>
  - o 07584 798528 vistastalbans@gmail.com
  - Extra support for parents and their children through the schools
- Families Feeling safe: Protective Behaviours Service
  - o <u>www.protectivebehavioursconsortium.co.uk</u>
  - $\circ$  01438 728653
  - Protective Behaviours service 0-19yr
  - o Early Intervention service to improve emotional wellbeing of children and families
  - Aims to promote resilience in children, young people, and adults, using empowerment strategies, clear communication, and awareness of "safe" behaviours
- Families First: www.hertfordshire.gov.uk/familiesfirst
  - o 0300 123 4043 or via email familiesfirst.support@hertfordshire.gov.uk
  - Help with behavioural problems: request assessment through SENCO/Family Support worker

- Home Start Herts: emotional and practical support to parents of children <12yrs:
  - o www.home-startherts.org.uk; 01438 367788
- Families in Focus: Hertfordshire council-approved
  - o www.familiesinfocus.co.uk
  - o **01442 219720**
  - o Free courses to build on parenting skills and anger management
- Supporting Links: parenting workshops in Hertfordshire
  - www.supportinglinks.co.uk 07512 709556 or 01442 300185 email info@supportinglnks.co.uk
- Directory of Parenting Support: https://directory.hertfordshire.gov.uk/Categories/53
  - o Free parenting courses through Hertfordshire county council to help and support
- DrugFAM: support for families struggling with loved one's addiction
  - o <u>www.drugfam.co.uk</u> 0300 888 3853
- Families going through break up: services for parents
  - o The Tavistock Centre: <a href="https://tavistockrelationships.org">https://tavistockrelationships.org</a>
  - o <u>www.separatedfamilies.info</u>
  - o www.kidsinthemiddle.org
- Information on finding a therapist
  - British Association of Counselling and Psychotherapy
    - www.bacp.co.uk; 01455 883300
  - UK Council for Psychotherapy
    - www.psychotherapy.org.uk; 0207 014 9955
- Staying safe online
  - o Childnet: www.childnet.com aims to make the internet a safe place for children and young people
  - o Child Exploitation and Online Protection Centre (CEOP): https://www.ceop.police.uk/safety-centre/
  - o The education programme from NCA-CEOP: UK organisation that protects children both online and offline
    - https://www.thinkuknow.co.uk/
  - Safety Net Kids: https://mysafetynet.org.uk/
  - o NSPCC: <u>www.nspcc.org.uk</u> 0800 138 663
  - o Parents Protect: practical advice including a dedicated helpline 0808 1000 900
    - https://www.parentsprotect.co.uk
  - ParentZone: advice and support for parenting in the digital world
    - https://www.parents.parentzone.org.uk/
- Information on Alcohol and Young People
  - https://alcoholeducationtrust.org/parent-area/
- Every Mind Matters Public Health Campaign: https://www.nhs.uk/oneyou/every-mind-matters/.
- Hertfordshire Family Centre Service
  - o https://www.hertsfamilycentres.org/family-centres.aspx
  - o 0300 123 7572
- Educational psychologist in Hertfordshire
  - o 01992 588 574 Wednesdays: 2-4.30pm
- Carers in Herts: advice, information and support to unpaid carers in Hertfordshire
  - o <u>www.carersinherts.org.uk</u>
  - 01992 58 69 69
  - o www.ycih.org young carers

- HWE Healthier Together Website: https://hwehealthiertogether.nhs.uk/
  - o Parental resources across broad range of health issues and ages
  - Parental resources relating specifically to mental health and wellbeing:
     https://www.hwehealthiertogether.nhs.uk/health-for-young-people/mental-health-and-wellbeing/support-advice-hertfordshire-parents

## Autism, ADHD, Sensory and Functional Issues

- Neurodiversity Support Hub: parental helpline 01727 833963 school term weekdays 9-1pm
- The Toolbox: <a href="https://thetoolbox.mindler.co.uk">https://thetoolbox.mindler.co.uk</a> (< 16yrs Hertfordshire) neurodiversity support and resources including live chat function
- o Autism Hertfordshire: >16yrs: <a href="https://www.autismbedfordshire.net/support-in-hertfordshire/">https://www.autismbedfordshire.net/support-in-hertfordshire/</a>
- o <u>Autism information and support</u> For information, advice and signposting related to Autism.
- Autism Helpline 10am 3pm, Monday to Friday 0808 800 4104 or via online contact form https://www.autism.org.uk/enquiry
- SPACE Hertfordshire Supporting families in Hertfordshire | Autism | ADHD | Neurodiversity
   (spaceherts.org.uk) For information, advice and support for children and young people in Hertfordshire who have a diagnosis of Autism or ADHD or where these are suspected
- <u>ADD-vance</u> Information, advice, support, training and workshops related to children and young people with a diagnosis of or suspected Autism and/or ADHD
  - ADD-vance Helpdesk is open from 9am to 1pm every weekday via 07716 744 662 or email to herts@add-vance.org
- o Angels for families of children with ADHD and on the Autistic spectrum
- <u>Children's Occupational Therapy</u> Useful information, strategies and support for children/young people who
  may be experiencing sensory, motor skills and other functional difficulties.
- Home NESSie IN ED, CIC Workshops focused on supporting children/young people with additional needs, particularly girls