# AVAILABLE HELP FOR TEENS IN NEED OF SUPPORT produced by Dr Alison Cowan Updated November 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

Herts Hub: www.hertshub.co.uk

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: <u>www.hertsmindnetwork.org</u>; 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
  - 01727 868684; <u>www.youthtalk.org.uk</u>
- Signpost: 10-25yr South and West Hertfordshire
  - o 01923 239495 or 07444 768078 12 counselling sessions; www.oneymca.org/signpost
- HarpendenPlus Partnership
  - 0 07985 330941; 01582 623676
- Relate: North Herts <u>www.relate.org.uk</u> 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>
  - o 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: https://www.healthyyoungmindsinherts.org.uk/
- 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; www.themix.org.uk
- NHS Every Mind Matters: <a href="https://www.nhs.uk/every-mind-matters/">https://www.nhs.uk/every-mind-matters/</a> 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: <u>www.sane.org.uk</u> 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: <u>www.sane.org.uk</u> 0300 304 7000 mental health support and guidance >16yrs
- Help for vulnerable people with additional needs: Guidepost Trust: <a href="https://guideposts.org.uk/">https://guideposts.org.uk/</a>
- 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
  - o 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 www.nopanic.org.uk; No Panic app; 0330 606 1174 youth line
    - Daily 10am-10pm
  - o OCD
    - OCD Action <a href="https://ocdaction.org.uk/">https://ocdaction.org.uk/</a> 0300 636 5478;
    - OCD UK https://www.ocduk.org/ 01332 588112
- Help with self-harm
  - o Harmless: <u>www.harmless.org.uk</u>
  - o Alumina (previously SelfharmUK): <a href="https://www.selfharm.co.uk">www.selfharm.co.uk</a> 14-19yr free online support
  - Self Injury Support: <a href="https://www.selfinjurysupport.org.uk">https://www.selfinjurysupport.org.uk</a>
    - 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

- The OLLiE Foundation: https://theolliefoundation.org/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
- o 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
- The Eating Disorders Association: www.b-eat.co.uk
- o The National Centre for Eating Disorder: <a href="www.eating-disorders.org.uk">www.eating-disorders.org.uk</a>

# 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: https://www.gamcare.org.uk/: Young people: www.bigdeal.org.uk
  - National Gambling Helpline: 0808 8020 133
- Gaming addiction: https://www.priorygroup.com/addiction-treatment/gaming-addiction-treatment
- Gamblers Anonymous: support for friends and or family: www.gamblersanonymous.org.uk

## Help with bereavement

- Coronavirus Bereavement guides: <u>Coronavirus bereavement guides | Hertfordshire County Council</u>
- 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>
- o <u>www.Ataloss.org</u>: signposts bereaved to bereavement services and information
- o <u>www.thegoodgrieftrust.org</u>
- o <u>www.griefencounter.org.uk</u>
- o www.childbereavementuk.org
- o <u>www.cruse.org.uk:</u> 0808 808 1677 Mon-Fri 9.30-5pm
- o www.stand-by-me.org.uk: 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/
- 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: www.stepchange.org
- o National Debtline: Tel: 0808 808 4000 www.nationaldebtline.org

# Help with mental health of all types:

- O **JustTalk:** https://www.justtalkherts.org/just-talk-herts.aspx
- **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 <u>www.newleafcollege.co.uk</u>; <u>students@newleafcollege.co.uk</u>; 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
  - 01923 676549 <u>www.kids.org.uk</u>
- **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)

### • Health & Wellbeing support

- o Nuffield is offering a few different free programmes for the community Our Impact | Nuffield Health
- o Self-referral Move together weekly classes for 11 16 years old girls Move Together | Nuffield Health
- Help with contraception and sexual health
  - o 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;
  - www.sh24.org.uk: 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.
  - Scarleteen website: <u>www.scarleteen.com</u>: sex education for teens and emerging adults
- Help for LGBT+ community
  - HCC SfYP LGBT website Young Pride in Herts: <a href="http://www.youngprideinherts.org/">http://www.youngprideinherts.org/</a>
  - O Switchboard: LGBT+ helpline: 0800 011 9100; https://switchboard.lgbt/
  - o Stonewall: national LGBT+ rights charity
    - www.stonewall.org.uk
  - Albert Kennedy Trust: charity for LGBT+ people who are homeless: www.akt.org.uk
- Abuse
  - 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 Sexual Violence Help and Advice (idas.org.uk)
- 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>

SH:24: Increase in online STI tests and provision of oral contraception

- Health for Teens and Kids website
  - o http://www.healthforteens.co.uk/
    - Herts Chat Health: 11-19yrs Text 07480 635050
- Operating as usual Monday-Friday 9-5pm

- http://www.healthforkids.co.uk/
- 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 <u>www.healthyhubs.org.uk</u>

# **PARENTAL SUPPORT**

- Happy Maps: Reliable resources and help for parents on children's mental health
  - o 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 https://www.moodcafe.co.uk/media/19579/cvp 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
  - www.youngminds.org.uk;
    - 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
  - o Extra support for parents and their children through the schools
- Families Feeling safe: Protective Behaviours Service
  - o <u>www.protectivebehavioursconsortium.co.uk</u>
  - o 01438 728653
  - o Protective Behaviours service 0-19yr
  - 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
  - 0 01442 219720
  - 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: <a href="https://directory.hertfordshire.gov.uk/Categories/53">https://directory.hertfordshire.gov.uk/Categories/53</a>
  - o Free parenting courses through Hertfordshire county council to help and support
- **DrugFAM:** support for families struggling with loved one's addiction
  - o www.drugfam.co.uk 0300 888 3853
- Families going through break up: services for parents
  - The Tavistock Centre: https://tavistockrelationships.org
  - o www.separatedfamilies.info
  - o www.kidsinthemiddle.org
- Information on finding a therapist
  - British Association of Counselling and Psychotherapy
    - www.bacp.co.uk; 01455 883300
  - o 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: <a href="https://mysafetynet.org.uk/">https://mysafetynet.org.uk/</a>
  - NSPCC: <u>www.nspcc.org.uk</u> 0800 138 663
  - Parents Protect: practical advice including a dedicated helpline 0808 1000 900
    - https://www.parentsprotect.co.uk
  - o ParentZone: advice and support for parenting in the digital world
    - https://www.parents.parentzone.org.uk/
- Information on Alcohol and Young People
  - o <a href="https://alcoholeducationtrust.org/parent-area/">https://alcoholeducationtrust.org/parent-area/</a>
- Every Mind Matters Public Health Campaign: <a href="https://www.nhs.uk/oneyou/every-mind-matters/">https://www.nhs.uk/oneyou/every-mind-matters/</a>.

## Hertfordshire Family Centre Service

- o <a href="https://www.hertsfamilycentres.org/family-centres.aspx">https://www.hertsfamilycentres.org/family-centres.aspx</a>
- 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>
  - o 01992 58 69 69
  - www.ycih.org young carers
- HWE Healthier Together Website: <a href="https://hwehealthiertogether.nhs.uk/">https://hwehealthiertogether.nhs.uk/</a>
  - o Parental resources across broad range of health issues and ages
  - Parental resources relating specifically to mental health and wellbeing: <a href="https://www.hwehealthiertogether.nhs.uk/health-for-young-people/mental-health-and-wellbeing/support-advice-hertfordshire-parents">https://www.hwehealthiertogether.nhs.uk/health-for-young-people/mental-health-and-wellbeing/support-advice-hertfordshire-parents</a>

## 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</li>
- 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
- ADD-vance 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