

ELECTRONIC HEALTH NEEDS ASSESSMENT

BACKGROUND

The electronic Health Needs Assessment (eHNA) is an annual survey of the health and wellbeing of children and young people in Calderdale. All schools are invited to take part in the survey, which is now in its 7th year. It is undertaken by pupils in years 5, 6, 7, 10 and 12. Following the appointment of the Public Health in Schools Co-ordinator, the number of schools involved has increased year on year. In 2017 all secondary schools and 91% of our primary schools participated, this reflects the importance of using the results to target the right support to the right pupils. Given the participation sample size, the survey can be regarded as a true reflection of the picture in Calderdale.



The survey covers three core themes:

- Healthy behaviours
- Avoiding harms
- Emotional health and wellbeing

Under those three core themes, a range of topics are explored in more detail.

OBJECTIVE



The objective of undertaking the survey is to improve the health and wellbeing of children and young people in Calderdale, by raising awareness of key health and wellbeing issues and developing system responses to improving outcomes. This particularly extends to assisting schools to engage with the broader system to ensure the needs of their children and young people are met, as well as delivering high quality Personal, Social, Health and Economic (PSHE) lessons to help develop the knowledge, skills and attributes children and young people need to manage their lives, now and in the future.

The survey has been adapted over the years, with input from students within both Primary and Secondary schools. It is regarded by the system as an important part of hearing the Voice of the Child.

RESULTS

The schools with the highest participation rates benefit with the best picture of life in their school from the voice of their students.

- One Secondary School implemented a Peer Mentoring Programme targeting year 10 girls to increase their self-esteem, as eHNA results showed a decrease with this group. The project has shown an 80% increase in self-confidence, a 73% increase in improved relationships and a 72% increase in improved communication skills.
- A cluster of schools collaborated their results and are now meeting to focus on transition from key stage 2 to 3 and how best to manage their pupils expectations to increase their confidence with the move.
- Several Primary schools have implemented the Daily Mile to increase the number of days their pupils do physical activity; this has impacted on their NCMP data which has shown that the number of obese pupils had decrease.
- Year 5 and 6 pupils from a Primary school learnt where fruit and vegetables come from around the world and the nutrients in them which increase their consumption of 5 portions of fruit a day from 6% to 18%.
- An annual Health and Wellbeing Conference is held for schools to share their experiences of using the results to implement interventions and the impact they are having.
- Multi agency network groups have been formed by the Public Health in Schools Co-ordinator to identify emerging themes and how schools can work together with Public Health and other key services to prevent these from becoming an issue. Knife crime is one of these and we are now in Partnership with the Police and Youth Offending Team to create some training to deliver in schools at all levels.

CONCLUSION

Schools are encouraged to use the results to inform the way they provide health and wellbeing support for their pupils and pupils, in line with OFSTED recommendations. The Public Health in Schools Co-ordinator is on hand to support schools to create bespoke health and wellbeing action plans to meet the health and wellbeing needs of the pupils in the school. It is owned by the school and on their terms, and should contribute to the delivery of OFSTED requirements, particularly in terms of 'personal development, behaviour and welfare'. Some Primary schools have used their results to create a Self-Evaluation Record of Evidence Form to identify their strengths and areas for development and demonstrate how they will meet the outcomes from their action plan.

Results are used both to drive improvement and to measure outcomes across the system – from the Children and Young People's Partnership Executive to the Children's Safeguarding Board and from the Community Safety Partnership to the Local Transformation Plan. The eHNA and its results has become embedded in practice with Directors frequently mentioning it in a range of settings and even Elected Members are advocates!



References

Key Findings Report can be found on Calderdale Joint Strategic Needs Assessment via <https://learning.calderdale.gov.uk/cmbc/services/health-services/ehna/eHNA%20survey%20key%20findings/Forms/AllItems.aspx>