



Tiverton High School scoops pioneering mental health award

Tiverton High School has achieved the School Mental Health Award which is delivered by the Carnegie Centre of Excellence for Mental Health in Schools. THS were awarded a Bronze standard for its outstanding mental health and wellbeing provision.

THS provides a wide range of activities to boost the wellbeing of pupils and staff, including mental health ambassadors, staff wellbeing activities, access to external provision and awareness days.

The school has also set up a parent forum for mental health raising awareness of available support from the school and external agencies.

Sammy Crook head teacher said “achieving the award is not just recognition of our whole-school approach to mental health, it’s a recognition of our commitment to improving the life chances of children and engaging with the wider community including staff and parents. This award is recognition of the importance that the School puts on mental wellbeing within the THS community.

A focal point of the school’s mental health and wellbeing provision is to ensure universal strategies for all staff and students to display positive mental health.

Nicola Lane Assistant Head for student wellbeing said “the Award framework has allowed us to celebrate the work we do and as we completed an audit of the provision across the School, remind ourselves of how extensive our work on wellbeing is and how embedded it is into the life of the School. The award recognises and validates the hard work and effort of the staff team and the school community at THS.”

The award was established in 2017 by the Carnegie Centre of Excellence for Mental Health in Schools – part of Leeds Beckett University – and social enterprise Minds Ahead.

The Carnegie Centre of Excellence for Mental Health in Schools aims to strengthen pupils’ mental health by supporting schools to make a positive change at all levels of the UK’s education system, improving students’ outcomes and life chances.

Rachel C. Boyle, Dean of Leeds Beckett’s Carnegie School of Education, said: “The achievement of the Mental Health award is a demonstration of the school’s significant commitment to improving children’s and staff’s mental health and wellbeing. It is also a commitment to developing practices in school that seek to improve awareness and expertise in creating safe and secure learning environments in which all children can truly fulfil their potential. This award is one that all staff can be truly proud of”.

Nationally, more than 1000 schools have signed up to take part in the mental health award.

Dean Johnstone, founder and CEO of Minds Ahead said: “This award shines a light on the excellent work schools are doing to promote mental health for their community of children and adults.

“It is thrilling and humbling to learn about Tiverton High School and the many other schools engaged in the quality award process. I’d like to offer my congratulations on this deserved recognition.”