

Halton Behaviour Support Service



Purpose & Vision

Halton Behaviour Support Service (HBSS) has been set up with the purpose of supporting all children and schools in Halton in managing behaviour in a positive way; supporting pupils, schools and parents with meeting the needs of pupils who exhibit challenging behaviour; those who require additional support to meet their SEMH needs and to provide cohesion and consistency of practice within schools and across the borough.

These are our aims;

- Embed a culture of consistency of practice;
- Promote positive behaviour management policies, techniques and strategies;
- Work collaboratively with schools across the primary and secondary age range;
- Drive Halton's SEMH agenda with passion and vigour.

What our service can do

- Liaise with other council departments and attend panel meetings to ensure that there is a swift, holistic, multi-agency approach to meeting the needs of individual children and cohorts of children;
- Monitor lists of pupils receiving fixed-term exclusions so that we can quickly intervene to support those at risk of permanent exclusion;

Whilst we appreciate that schools are only required to return data on fixed-term exclusion each term, we strongly recommend that schools inform us directly each time there is a fixed term exclusion. This will enable us to work more proactively with the school and families with the aim of reducing the likelihood of repeated exclusions. This data will also enable us to work with schools to identify patterns and other areas of support we can provide. UPDATED EXCLUSION FORMS CAN BE FOUND IN OUR RESOURCES SECTION.

- Audit behaviour in schools including reviews of behaviour policies and consultation with school stakeholders about perceptions around behaviour (or provide documents for self-audit and evaluation);
- Support for schools when including reference to behaviour, discipline and SEMH in their SEF and improvement plans;
- Support in writing and updating policies linked to behaviour and SEMH. This includes the development of model policies for use in Halton schools (similar to the current Model Safeguarding Policy);
- Build capacity in schools so that SEMH needs and behaviour for learning are given the appropriate level of significance and priority;
- Bespoke classroom management support for staff who are struggling to implement the school's chosen policies and strategies, including feedback on this support for line managers;
- Classroom environment advice and support to ensure that it meets the needs of the cohort;
- A comprehensive training offer for all stakeholders including legalities of behaviour management, the principles of successful behaviour management and practical strategies that can be implemented within the classroom.
- Signpost to and facilitation of recommended external training providers, including a review of what would work for individual settings;
- Signpost to and facilitation of sharing good practice both within Halton and outside the borough in order to support schools in ensuring appropriate, considered approaches to behaviour management;
- Support for identification of pupils at risk of exclusion and family liaison support for reintegration of those who have been excluded (where appropriate).

Who we will work with

We are a school facing service so we will not be working directly with individual children.

However, we will support schools by building capacity within the school staff to more effectively meet children's needs and by coordinating support through other channels and agencies.

We will also have capacity through our Family Liaison Officers to work in partnership with targeted families. This will include home visits and providing advice to parents and carers as part of our initial assessment process. We will offer follow-up advice for parents and carers as an ongoing service.

All referrals are to be sent to hbss@halton.gov.uk. It is important to include an indication of the type of support that is required in this email (Head of Service/Primary Teacher/Secondary Teacher/Family Liaison Officer. In most cases, requests will include a completed CARE schedule.