



www.kooth.com

Dear Parents/ Carers,

We are writing to inform you of a mental health and emotional wellbeing service available to young people called Kooth. We know that there are times when life can feel like a struggle and that, especially this year, some extra support can be needed. Recognising this, Kooth has been commissioned by Leeds NHS Clinical Commissioning Group to provide free, anonymous and safe online support for young people aged 10-18.

Kooth is an online community (www.kooth.com) that is accessible 24/7, 365 days of the year and provides access to chat sessions with BACP-accredited counsellors and qualified emotional wellbeing practitioners. All out chat sessions are done via text, and last up to an hour. Chat is available from 12pm to 10pm on Monday-Friday, and 6pm-10pm on Saturday-Sunday, providing a much needed 'out of hours' service. Kooth is accessible from any device that can access the wifi, allowing young people to seek help and support at a time and location that is suitable for them.

But Kooth is so much more than just having chat sessions. Young people can get peer-to-peer support, as well as get involved with activities designed to improve emotional wellbeing and resilience. They can participate by reading/ writing magazine articles, keeping a journal, setting goals and engaging in discussion boards and live forums. We allow young people to share their experiences safely, and everything contributed to the community is thoroughly moderated by the online team so that we can guarantee there won't be any trolling, bullying or judgement – they also won't be allowed to share any personal details with each other.

Kooth is not a replacement for any in person support for a young person; rather it is an additional means of accessing further support. There is no such thing as a problem that is too big or too small at Kooth. Our team reflects all communities and walks of life, so no matter what issue you come to us with there is somebody at Kooth who can and will help.