



## **CHILDREN AND YOUNG PEOPLE'S MENTAL HEALTH COALITION (CYPMHC)**

### **TERMS OF REFERENCE**

Children and Young People's Mental Health Coalition (CYPMHC) are a coalition of organisations from across England who are passionate about the mental health and wellbeing of children and young people. Through the CYPMHC our charities come together and speak as one on behalf of children and young people. Coalition members share and sign up to our mission, vision and values.

#### **OUR MISSION**

The Coalition is for all those working to improve infant, children, and young people's mental health. Through our collective voice, we influence and shape policy, systems, and practice by listening to, and learning from our members, supporters, children, young people, and families.

#### **OUR VISION**

Our vision is for all infants, children, and young people to grow up in a society that prioritises, invests, listens and attends to their mental health and wellbeing.

#### **OUR VALUES**

- **Respect** for the rights of all infants, children, young people, and families
- **Trust** in the voices and experiences of children, young people, and families and all who work with and for them
- **Fairness and equity** across policy, resources and services affecting infants', children's and young people's mental health and wellbeing

#### **OUR STRATEGY**

In 2018, the coalition gathered responses from across the membership to find out more about their key priorities for improving children and young people's mental health and wellbeing and extend our learning community. Through this process, the coalition identified three key priorities which led to the development of a revised [Strategic Plan](#) for the next three years:

1. The promotion of good mental health, the **prevention** of mental health difficulties and the reduction of inequalities in all national and local policies and strategies impacting on infants, children, young people and families
2. Greater **investment** in accessible, high quality, person-centred, **early intervention** approaches to infants', children's, and young people's mental health
3. Everyone having the **knowledge, skills, and confidence** to recognise and address the mental health needs of infants, children and young people.



## **MEMBERSHIP**

The coalition's aim is to bring together leading charities to campaign jointly on the mental health and wellbeing of children and young people and ensure that our voice is heard. We do this by jointly responding to government consultations, holding member events, contribute to briefings and share our members work via our weekly updates.

Membership is open to any non-governmental organisation who have an interest in the CYPMHC's remit and values and are committed to pursuing the purpose of the Coalition in the manner indicated and who are able to sign-up to these Terms of Reference.

Organisations seeking to become members should apply to [info@cypmhc.org.uk](mailto:info@cypmhc.org.uk) in writing, stating why they want to become members and committing to the values of the Coalition. We ask that one individual from each organisation be the principle contact to receive communications, invitations, etc, and additional individuals from that organisation can sign themselves up to the mailing list via the website (to receive the weekly newsletter). The principle contact can delegate to other individuals within the organisation if they are unable to attend events/meetings or contribute to workstreams as they see fit.

### **What we offer our members:**

- The opportunity to influence policy change through consultations and workshops with government departments
- Latest news and CYP MH updates in our weekly newsletter
- Sharing of our members campaigns and publications
- Invitations to coalition events and opportunities to co-host events (or run jointly)
- Discounted rates at other events
- Networking opportunities to connect our members via our workshops
- Promoting our members work through our platforms and networks
- We will follow/support your organisations social media

### **What we may ask of you as a member:**

- Share information about your upcoming work with us
- Meet yearly to help us define priorities and suggest areas of work, communicate virtually in between times, and comment on proposed work plans, etc.
- Take part in the work of relevant working groups when requested
- Contribute to policy work, consultation responses, etc.
- Feed in views from the children, young people and families you work with
- Help disseminate the coalition's work
- Hold the Steering Group to account

## **MEMBERSHIP CATEGORIES**

### **Steering Group**

The Steering Group is responsible for setting the strategic direction of the Coalition and oversees its operational plans. Collectively, they assist in prioritising and planning for the delivery of key Coalition activities such as campaigns or events. Members of the group will also share information regularly to prevent duplication and ensure the Coalition is representing the views of its members effectively.



## Children & Young People's Mental Health Coalition

The Steering Group is made up of eight member organisations who meet four times a year to discuss operational progress and workstreams. Other work is progressed virtually. Steering Group membership is reviewed every 3 years but members can stand for longer. Members can apply to become a Steering Group member when a position/s becomes available. This will be advertised to all members and applications will be assessed collectively by the Steering Group.

### **Member**

Wider members will continue to support the work of the Coalition and will benefit from receiving up to date information and invitations to events/networking opportunities.

### **Working Group member**

Working groups will take forward specific projects and tasks aligned to our three strategic priorities. These groups may be established as either a permanent group centred around our priorities or as cross-cutting 'task and finish' groups to take forward specific/short-term projects, for example, influencing on key policy proposals or legislation. These groups will primarily gather evidence and will work with all members to gather their views and formulate policy positions.

### **Observer member**

Organisations which are constitutionally unable to be members of the Coalition may be permitted to take observer status, subject to a) their committing to the Coalition's values and objectives and b) approval by the Steering Group.