

**For all partners and stakeholders working in Milton Keynes (by email)**

29<sup>th</sup> November 2023

Dear All

I am writing to provide a brief update on MK YIS (Young peoples mental health service) and the offer of mental health and wellbeing support in Milton Keynes.

Sadly, due to external pressures, MK YIS have taken the difficult decision to close their charity. They are no longer accepting new referrals and are supporting young people to access other services. Their last day in operation will be 31<sup>st</sup> December 2023.

You can find details on other services [here](#). In particular, we would advise you consider the following options for children and young people who may need advice, help or support:

- Free 24/7 mental health advice & support via Shout messenger service – text reflect to 85258 (please see attached resources)
- National resources such as [Childline](#) or [The Mix - Essential support for under 25s](#)
- Through Mental Health Support Teams (MHSTs) via schools. This is not a universal offer across Milton Keynes but does offer preventative support in both primary and secondary settings. Please see [here](#) for further details

If you think a child or young person needs ongoing or a more intensive level of support, please contact the CAMH single point of access on 01908 724228 who will be advise on what provision would be most appropriate.

The council and local NHS are working on developing a new offer of mental health advice and early help for children and young people. This will include investment in existing local services to offer additional capacity from January 2024. Longer term, we will also be working on implementing a new community mental health & wellbeing prevention service.

There will be updates with further information of these change over the coming weeks and months.

Yours sincerely



Marimba Carr – Deputy Director of Public Health



James Dove – Public Health Principal (Children, Young People & Families)