

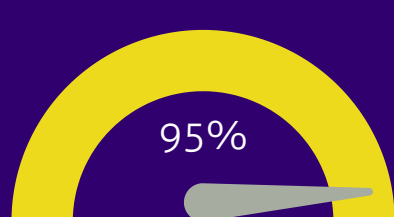
BACP school counselling survey 2022

A counsellor for every school in England

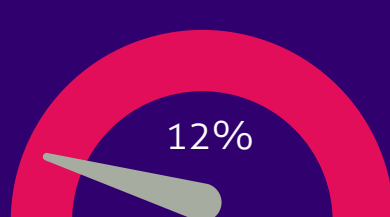
We believe there should be a paid counsellor in every secondary school, academy, and further education college in England. It's the only country in the UK not to have government-funded school counselling services. The results of our survey of school staff in England help us make the case for greater investment in school counselling.

Key findings

Increase in demand

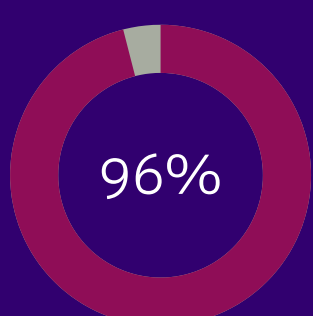


95% of respondents whose school offered counselling say demand for this service had increased since the pandemic

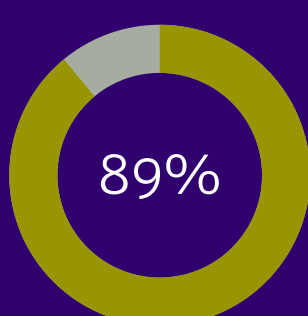


12% of respondents whose school offered counselling say funding for this provision had increased since the pandemic, while 20% said it had decreased

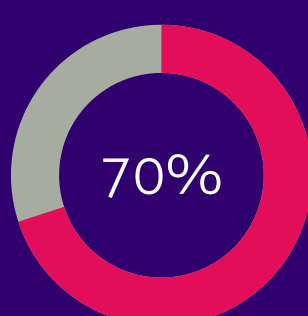
Funding needs



96% agree that funding for mental health provision for students should come from Government

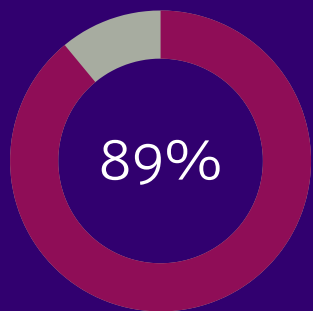


89% agree that additional funding for mental health provision in schools should be ringfenced so schools can buy in services

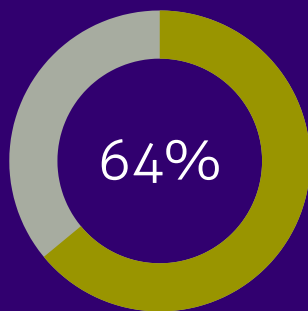


70% of those at schools that have never offered in-house counselling say it was because they don't have the funding or budget

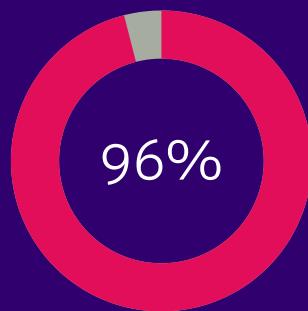
Not enough support



89% say children and young people's education is suffering due to a lack of mental health support

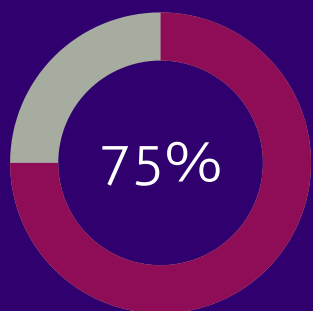


64% say they don't feel their school offers students enough mental health support

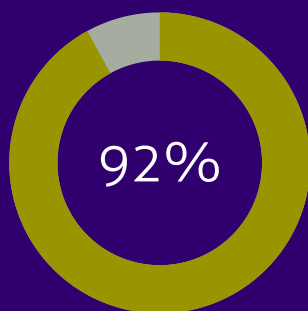


96% say children and young people should have access to counselling before issues become critical

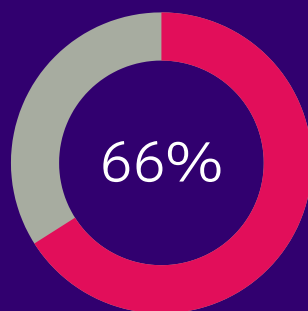
Impact on school



75% say that the school counsellor is the staff member to whom they would refer students who presented with symptoms of emotional distress, bereavement, self-harm, an eating disorder, depression or other issues



92% say counselling contributes to the pastoral and nurturing ethos of the school



66% say that students having access to a school counselling service allows teachers to focus more on teaching

Survey information

Thank you to all the organisations who shared our survey with school staff – including the Association of School and College Leaders, the NAHT and NASUWT, Education Support, the Charlie Waller Trust, Young Minds, Kooth, Place2Be, and the Association of Colleges.

The survey was carried out between November 2021 and February 2022. Total sample size was 319.

Find out more at

www.bacp.co.uk/schoolsurvey

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