

Healthy Approach

This ground-breaking programme will enable schools to measure their success in influencing the healthier behaviour of children and young people and will build on their achievement of gaining National Healthy School Status (NHSS). Schools will also receive individual grants towards this work.

The South West is the only region in England to pioneer this initiative, funded by the Department of Health, the South West Strategic Health Authority and individual local South West Primary Care Trusts.

It is a new and exciting approach to health and wellbeing work in schools. The results of the programme may help shape national policies in the future.



DRAFT Overview | December 2008

extending the Healthy Schools Approach

in South West England

Extending the Schools Approach

Schools in South West England are being offered the chance to join a new programme called South West Healthy Schools Plus, which will give them access to **additional support, resources and expertise to help tackle some of the most challenging health and wellbeing issues faced by children and young people.**



More information on South West Healthy Schools Plus is available in the South West Healthy School handbooks for Schools and Local Programmes or from NHSP local programme co-ordinators.

A full list of NHSP local programme co-ordinators, including contact details, is available on the NHSP website www.healthyschools.gov.uk.



The National Healthy Schools Programme is a joint Department of Health and Department for Children Schools and Families initiative.



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How South West Healthy Schools Plus will work in schools

South West Healthy Schools Plus will be available to schools which have achieved National Healthy School Status (NHSS). This is widely regarded as the basic standard schools should achieve in this area of work.

Schools with NHSS will be able to build on this framework and develop new ways of encouraging children and young people to actively embrace healthier behaviour.

Schools will show changes in behaviour as well as good teaching and learning around health.

To start with, South West Healthy Schools Plus will focus on the areas of highest health need. This will include schools with over 20% free school meal entitlement or other locally defined priorities, such as schools in teenage pregnancy or obesity hotspots.

How schools will benefit from this new approach

Schools participating in the National Healthy Schools Programme already recognise how important it is for children and young people to be healthy and how this can impact on a whole range of issues such as behaviour, attainment and attendance.

South West Healthy Schools Plus will give schools the opportunity to build on this work.

Schools will get additional funding and it will help them demonstrate healthy outcomes to Ofsted.

It will also:

- Help schools show robust improvements in terms of healthier behaviour outcomes as part of the school inspection process, including the proposed introduction of the wellbeing indicators.
- Make it a priority for schools to support children in challenging circumstances.
- Provide additional funding for individual schools.
- Give schools an opportunity to further celebrate success.

Moving from Healthy Schools to Healthy Schools Plus

Schools will work closely with NHSP local programmes to agree healthier behaviour outcomes, which will be the targets that schools work towards to gain South West Healthy Schools Plus. They will also agree early success indicators so a school can demonstrate clear progress along the way.

Schools will access school and local data to help them decide which priorities and activities to focus on.

They will need to select three priority areas including:

- A local priority - ensuring that South West Healthy Schools Plus is clearly connected to the National Indicators, which will feature in your local authority Children and Young People's Plan.
- A school priority – identified from school or local data.
- A priority group – a specific group of children and young people who face challenging circumstances, such as children in care or young carers.

