



Supporting our Students during COVID-19 Pandemic

*“Engaging as a “caring adult” is a role that all educators can assume. However, it is very important to recognize that **educators are not mental health professionals** and should not be expected to conduct Mental Health Check-Ins during virtual conversations with students and their families. Those with specialized training in this area, like school mental health professionals registered with a professional College, are best positioned for this level of connection.”*

SMHO, 2020

Scenario	Action
Student expresses Duty to Report protection concern(s).	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Complete CAS Reporting Form or https://connect.publicboard.ca/CAS/ • Report to Windsor Essex Children’s Aid Society at 519-252-1171. • Inform principal.
Student expresses general worries.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Listen and allow them to talk about it with you. • Refer them to our webpage “Supporting all of us through COVID-19” for resources. • Encourage students to complete the survey on above webpage. • Remind them to get sleep, eat properly, exercise, and talk to friends.
Student expresses concerns or sadness and would like to speak to someone.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Refer student to Kids Help Phone - 1 800 668 6868 or text CONNECT to 686868. • Inform principal of concern for possible social work consultation*.
Student discloses a traumatic event.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Inform Principal directly. • Principal to contact designated Trauma/VTRA Supervisor.
Student discloses suicidal ideation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Inform Principal of the suicidal ideation. • Principal contacts parent/guardian and provides resources. ASIST training will guide the questions and how to refer to resources. Principal may consult with the Supervisor of Social Work Services.
Student discloses that a suicide attempt is in progress.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Speak to the parents/guardians directly. Otherwise, CALL 911 emergency services for immediate response. • Parents/guardians may want to go directly to local hospital with student and not call 911. WRH-Met campus-15 years of age and younger, WRH-Ouellette campus-16 and over. Erie Shores Health Care in Leamington. • Notify principal of call to the parents/guardians or 911. • Principal to contact Supervisor of Social Work.

*Guidelines for new referrals for social work consultations:

- Principal contacts school social worker (email or work extension) to consult about the student’s situation with no reference to the student’s name.
- Principal to gain verbal consent from the parent/legal guardian or student over 16 for school social worker to contact them confirming phone number. Principal to complete the social work consultation form documenting name of parent/guardian, date and time of verbal consent.
- Social worker will contact the family to discuss consent form, risks and benefits of telephone counseling and the issue of confidentiality.

KEY CONNECTIONS:

Kids’ Help Phone

1-800-668-6868 or
Text CONNECT to 686868
Available 24/7

RCC Walk In Clinic (0-17 Years)

(Telephone Service only)
519-257-KIDS (5437)
Call for hours

Local Community Crisis (16 & over)

519-973-4435
Available 24/7

Transitional Stability Centre

(16 & over)
519-257-5224
Call for hours