

Partnership Working with Looked After Children

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Looked After Children

1 in 2 Children who are
Looked After have mental
health problems

compared to.....

1 in 10 Children in the general
population



One Third of
looked After
Children in the
UK do not
receive a
statutory mental
health
assessment

“NOT SEEN. NOT HEARD:
A review of the
arrangements for child
safeguarding and health
care for looked after
children in England”.

Care Quality Commission
(2016)





CAMHS & the Local Authority

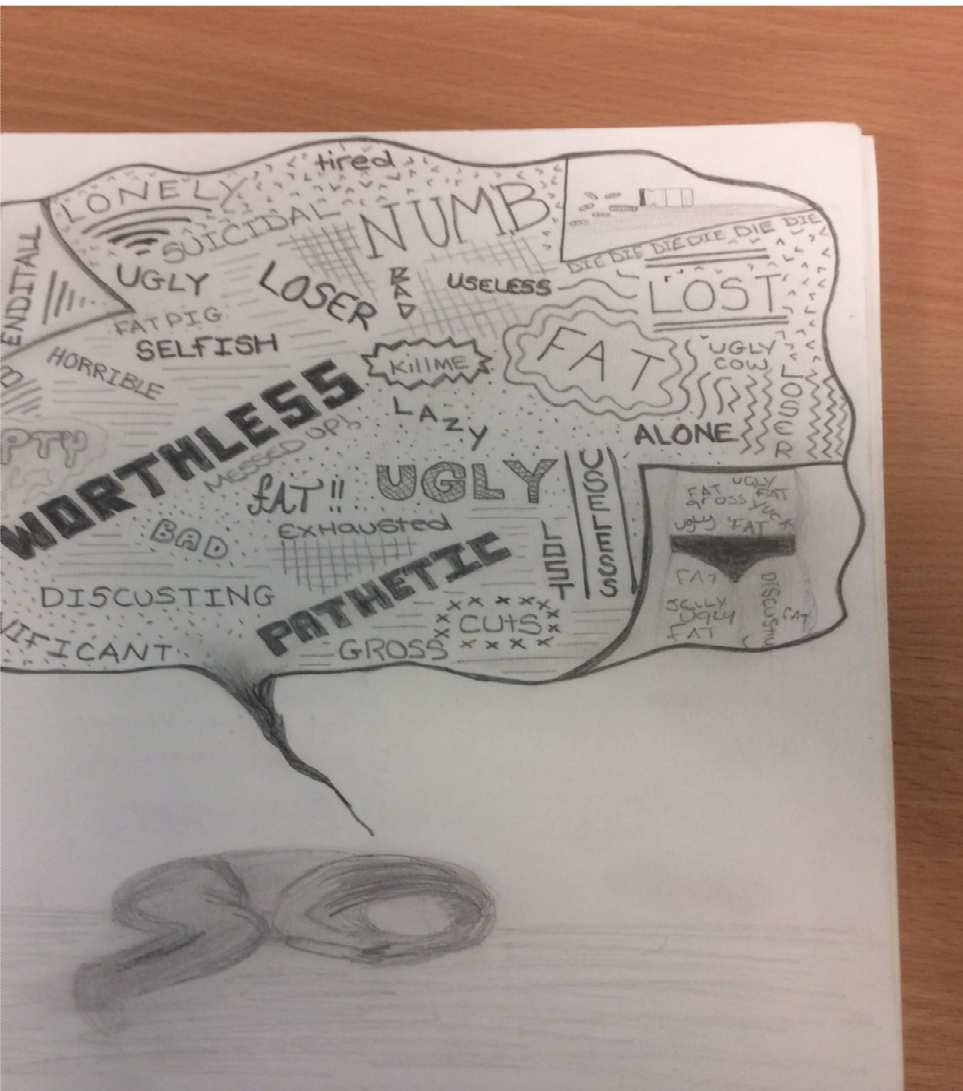
- Jointly developed a process for completing the Strengths and Difficulties Questionnaire for All Children who are Looked After
- Out of County LAC: Ensuring our children out of county receive mental health support
- Co-location
- CAMHS input at Resource Panel
- Training Foster-Carers - therapeutic parenting
- Residential Care Homes

Residential Care Homes

- Dedicated mental health team (senior clinical psychologist and mental health practitioner)
- Joint working with Residential Area Manager (review referrals, matching process, step-down from residential care)
- Psychological assessments of every young person
- Psychological support for the young person
 - Direct work
 - Links with Specialist CAMHS pathway e.g. ASD/Eating Disorders
- Reflective Practice & Supervision for the staff



Why Mental Health Matters: Feedback from Young People in Care



- “We’re often the last person to know something”
- “Listen with the purpose of listening, not to respond”
- “Don’t invalidate their experiences because you can’t relate”
- “If we push you away or withdraw, be patient with us and keep trying....it is hard for us to open up to and trust people”