



Government
Events

The Student Mental Health Conference 2021

Tuesday 20th April 2021

Event Guide





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How to Claim Your CPD Points

Regarding CPD credits, it is the individual delegate's responsibility to evaluate their learning and record it appropriately into their CPD portfolios according to your institute's requirements.

For this Conference, you are entitled to 8 CPD points.



Welcome Letter

Dear Delegate,

Welcome to the Student Mental Health Conference.

With student mental health already facing a crisis, the impact of Covid-19 has had a worsening effect – with hundreds of thousands of students facing uncertainty, local lockdowns, and being separated from home. Student services have been struggling for some time, with increasing waiting times for counselling services and decreased funding for student support in many institutions.

There have been some positive steps towards improving student mental health, with Higher Education Institutions, Student Minds, UUK, NUS and the Department for Education collaborating to develop The University Mental Health Charter and Award Scheme in 2020. In light of Covid-19 and these steps towards an emphasis on student mental health, it is more important than ever to evaluate and improve the support given to students in universities across the country.

- According to HEPI, Undergraduate students are significantly less likely than the general population to feel satisfied or happy with their lives, with this gap even more pronounced for LGBT and BME students
- 94% of universities' counselling services saw an increase in demand the last 5 years
- Many of the 110 universities asked in 2019 said they did not record all relevant key statistics, such as budgets or counselling waiting times
- The Government has awarded £4m to two Office for Students' initiatives aimed at improving student mental health during Covid-19

Today you will hear the latest policy on supporting student mental health, along with a wide range of relevant and innovative best practise case studies from experts in the sector. You also will have the opportunity to discuss vital learning points from Covid-19 and beyond with senior colleagues from across the Higher Education sector.

If you have any technical issues, please get in touch with our technical team through the support button at the top of the EventsAir platform.

We hope you have a rewarding and enjoyable day.

Yours Truly,

David Blake
Government Events



Agenda AM

09:00-09:40 **Online Registration**

09:40-09:50 **Chair's Welcome Address**

Simon Lee, Executive Member, AMOSSHE and Deputy Director, Student & Library Services (Resilience, Sport and Wellbeing), Teesside University

09:50-10:10 **Keynote: The Latest Government Policy in Improving Student Mental Health**

Michelle Donelan MP, Minister of State for Universities, Department for Education

10:10-10:30 **Keynote: Innovative and Practical Lessons Learnt from the Covid-19 Crisis**

Emma Douthwaite, Safeguarding and Welfare Manager, Office for Students

10:30-10:50 **Questions and Answers**

10:50-11:05 **Comfort Break**

11:05-11:25 **Case Study: Understanding the Student Experience of Mental Health Support**

Diana Omokore, Care Leaver and Medical Student, DeMontfort University

11:25-11:45 **Case Study: Mental Health and Analytics: Understanding and Improving Student Mental Health Through Data**

Peter Francis, Deputy Vice Chancellor, Northumbria University, Dr James Newham, VC Senior Fellow, Northumbria University

11:45-12:05 **Headline Supporter Session - How student engagement supports positive outreach before a point of crisis**

Richard Gascoigne, CEO, Solutionpath

12:05-12:25 **Questions and Answers**

12:25-13:05 **Lunch Break**

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Identify struggling students before the point of crisis with **STREAM**

The **StREAM Student Engagement Platform** helps you to better understand how students are engaging, identify changes in behaviour that are cause for concern and initiate informed support to the right student at the right time!

- ▲ Visualise student engagement with academic learning at cohort, course and individual level using a simple measure of engagement
- ▲ Identify disengaged students and be alerted to those who may be struggling
- ▲ Make informed, proactive outreach with students transparently, without bias and at scale



Find out more

Hello@solutionpath.co.uk

www.solutionpath.co.uk



Agenda PM

- 13:05-13:25 **Case Study: Enhancing Transitional Student Wellbeing with a Digital Peer-To-Peer Approach**
Tom Wright, Director of Digital Student Life, University of Lincoln
- 13:25-13:45 **Case Study: Improving Student Support with a Multi-Agency Community Approach**
Kara Holloway, Student Mental Health Project Coordinator, Keele University
- 13:45-14:05 **Key Supporter Session - UniWellBeing**
- 14:05-14:25 **Question and Answers**
- 14:25-14:40 **Comfort Break**
- 14:40-15:10 **Breakout Networking: Community Approaches to Student Mental Health**
- 15:10-15:30 **Case Study: Creating Online Wellbeing Initiatives to Improve Access to Support**
Ben Leatham, Programme Manager (Student Space), Student Minds
- 15:30-15:50 **Case Study: Ensuring a Safe and Inclusive Campus for LGBTQ+ Students**
Professor Sarah Sharples, Pro-Vice-Chancellor for Equality, Diversity and Inclusion, University of Nottingham
- 15:50-16:10 **Questions and Answers**
- 16:10 **Close of Conference**

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SOLUTIONPATH

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Solutionpath develop products to help every student realise their potential.

Our student engagement platform StREAM transforms academic engagement data into meaningful, actionable insight via a daily engagement score and easy to use dashboards.

With StREAM university staff can create a holistic view of engagement and use disengagement to identify those students who may be struggling and therefore easily identify risk before crisis. The transparent nature of our platform means that students can also use their engagement to self-reflect and calibrate, encouraging more informed conversations between student and staff.

With engagement insights you can provide more timely, relevant and personalised support for your students.

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Key Supporter



www.uniwellbeing.com

WE DO STUDENT WELLBEING DIFFERENTLY


Our strategic digital platform makes building healthy habits and looking after wellbeing fun, stimulating and interactive.

It combines social engagement activities, tools and educational content to empower all students to self-help and build positive habits, coping skills and resilience.

The bottom line is happier, healthier and more productive students.

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Speaker Biographies

Michelle Donelan MP

Minister of State for Universities, Department for Education

Michelle Donelan was appointed Minister of State for Universities at the Department of Education on 13 February 2020. She was previously Government Whip (Lord Commissioner of HM Treasury) from 29 July 2019 to 13 February 2020. She was also an unpaid Parliamentary Under Secretary of State at the Department for Education covering the maternity leave of Kemi Badenoch MP from 4 September 2019 to 13 February 2020

Emma Douthwaite

Safeguarding and Welfare Manager, Office for Students

Peter Francis

Deputy Vice Chancellor, Northumbria University

With over twenty years' experience, Professor Peter Francis' career spans all aspects of academia, from learning and teaching to research and enterprise. As well as lecturing, Professor Francis has worked in a variety of posts across the university including Head of Department (Arts), Head of Department (Social Sciences), Associate Dean (Teaching and Learning), and Associate Dean (Academic) giving him a breadth of knowledge and invaluable insight into the need to support student engagement at all stages of their journey.

Professor Francis is project lead of a £2m venture supported by Office for Students (under their Challenge Competition), which will use innovative integration of technology, advanced educational data analytics, student relationship management and student support to provide an understanding of the opportunities to predict whether a student is already experiencing or will have a mental health crisis. The purpose of the study is to identify actionable insights to deliver holistic approaches to student health, wellbeing and education.

Richard Gascoigne

CEO, Solutionpath

Richard is Co- Founder and engagement analytics enthusiast of Solutionpath, one a mission to help every student to reach their full potential. Richard is passionate about the ethical and responsible use of data to drive student attainment and progression, something he has placed central to Solutionpath's design principals. Richard served for 10 years in the armed forces, is dad to four children and has had a successful career in building products and leading successful technology companies.

Kara Holloway

Student Mental Health Project Coordinator, Keele University

Kara is the Start to Success Project Coordinator at Keele based within the Keele University Student Services team. Alongside the Project Coordinator from Staffordshire University, she is responsible for general oversight of the project, coordinating the work that the other project officers are engaged with and delivering top level initiatives that span across all work streams such as the survey and staff training framework. Kara is also currently a PhD candidate in the School of Psychology at Keele University looking at the development and implementation of student alcohol interventions.

Ben Leatham

Programme Manager (Student Space), Student Minds

Ben is the Programme Manager for [Student Space](#), an online platform that is delivering targeted mental health support to students during the pandemic in three ways:

1. Providing access to dedicated support services
2. Developing and sharing information and tools
3. Helping students find what support is available at their university

Student Space is run by Student Minds and funded by the Office for Students and Higher Education Funding Council for Wales.



Ben has previously worked at United for Global Mental Health and Mind on a range of digital mental health projects and campaigns.

Simon Lee

Executive Member, AMOSSHE and Deputy Director, Student & Library Services (Resilience, Sport and Wellbeing), Teesside University

Simon is an Executive Member of AMOSSHE, the Student Services Organisation and Deputy Director of Student and Library Services at Teesside University.

At Teesside Simon heads up the University's response to student mental health and oversees teams of professionals including counsellors, mental health practitioners and advisers. His wider portfolio contains a range of student support services including; student welfare, finance and visa advice, disability support, sport, wellbeing and the University's multi-faith chaplaincy.

Through AMOSSHE Simon has led a range of events and initiatives aimed at supporting and developing student services provision including mental health conferences and research into the effective management of multi-faith spaces on University campuses. He has recently been elected Chair of the North East Regional Prevent Group.

A member of the British Psychological Society, Simon started his career in local government where he led a range of community based projects aimed at promoting physical and mental health, wellbeing and cohesion.

Diana Omokore

Care Leaver and Medical Student, DeMontfort University

Hi, my name is Diana and I am currently in my final year of Medical Science, going on the study Medicine in September. I work as a private tutor in English, science, mathematics, and the piano for children aged 4 to 17, and work in a children's residential home. In addition, I volunteer for chidlline and at the children's hospital in Birmingham. I aspire to become a paediatric neurosurgeon in the future, so that's what i'm currently working towards. I am on the House of Lords COVID-19 committee where we have recently been focusing on the long-term impacts of the pandemic on unemployment, young people's mental health, people with disabilities and vulnerable people. I am also on Parliament's Patchwork Foundation which involves taking part in a series of masterclasses with other young people where we increase out political knowledge and engage with senior political figures in the House of Parliament.

Professor Sarah Sharples

Pro-Vice-Chancellor for Equality, Diversity and Inclusion, University of Nottingham

Professor Sarah Sharples is Pro-Vice-Chancellor for Equality, Diversity & Inclusion and People, where she has responsibility for development and implementation for the EDI strategy to support staff and students. She is also a Professor of Human Factors in Engineering. She leads the EPSRC (Engineering & Physical Sciences Research Council) Connected Everything Network Plus; is co-director of the EPSRC Horizon Centre for Doctoral Training and is involved in research in areas including digital manufacturing, transport, and health care.

She is Non-Executive Director of the Connected Places Catapult and is on the Science Advisory Council for the Department for Transport; and is a member of the Council of the EPSRC.

Tom Wright

Director of Digital Student Life, University of Lincoln

Tom has been working as Director of Digital Student Life at the University of Lincoln since June 2016, focusing on supporting student transition and retention and enhancing graduate outcomes using digital approaches and co-production with students. He was previously Head of Digital Communications and Marketing at the University of Nottingham and, prior to that, worked in digital and web roles for a variety of organisations, including the NHS and Rolls-Royce.



Delegate List

Activate Learning, Faculty Manager
Birmingham City University, Student Success Advisor
Bishop Grosseteste University, Students' Union President
Buckinghamshire New University, Senior Lecturer in Sociology
Burnley College, Health and Wellbeing Officer
Fareham College, Director of Student Experience
Gloucestershire College, SEND Education Mental Health Practitioner
Gloucestershire College, Director of Student Employment & Experience
Gloucestershire College, Student Officer
Gloucestershire College, Assistant Principal
Institute of Continuing Education, University of Cambridge, Assistant Director (Student Experience)
LIPA, Student Support Manager
London South East Colleges, NCOP UniConnect Engagement Coordinator
Mayfield Grammar School, Assistant Headteacher
NCUK, Student Support Manager
North Kent College, Support and Inclusion Manager
North Kent College, Counselling Services
Northumbria University, Assistant Director (Student Life and Wellbeing), Student, Library and Academic Services, Northumbria University
Northumbria University, Head of Wellbeing and Mental Health
Norwich University of the Arts, Student Mental Health and Wellbeing Advisor
Nottingham Trent University, Principal Lecturer
Oaklands College, Safeguarding and Wellbeing Manager
Queen's Accommodation, Residential Support and Events Manager
Queen's Accommodation, Residential Life Manager
Reading College, Activate Learning, Faculty Manager
Solihull College & University Centre, Mental Health Lead
Solihull College & University Centre, Mental Health Support Worker
Staffordshire University, Course Director: Social Work
Staffordshire university, Paramedic lecturer
Staffordshire University, Associate Dean - Students
Staffordshire University, Senior Lecturer
Teesside University, Senior Student Counsellor
The Open University, Mental Health Advisor
The Open University, Senior Manager Personal Learning Advice Service
The Open University, Staff Tutor
The Open University, Lecturer in Law
The Open University, Head of Strategy and Quality Development
The Open University, Senior Manager Personal Learning Advice Service
The Open University, Senior Manager Student Support (Information Advice and Guidance)
The Sheffield college, Tutorial Mentor
University of Birmingham, Wellbeing Officer
University of Chichester, Mental Health and Wellbeing Adviser
University of Cumbria, Principal Lecturer
University of Cumbria, Senior Lecturer in Midwifery
University of East Anglia, Head of Wellbeing
University of Greenwich, Teaching Fellow MET Dept
University of Lincoln, Digital Project Lead
University of Manchester, Acting Head of Counselling & Mental Health Service
University of Manchester, Head of Student Support Services, School of Social Sciences
University of Nottingham, Liberation Officer, Student's Union
Walsall College, Interim Head of Student Services and Wellbeing and Designated Safeguarding Lead
York St John University, Director of Student Life



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Our Future Events

Please look at our website, www.GovernmentEvents.co.uk,
to view our future events. These include:

[The Children and Young People's Mental Health Conference 2021](#)

6th May 2021, Online

[The Special Educational Needs and Disability \(SEND\) Conference 2021](#)

16th June 2021, Online

[Working in Partnership to Safeguard Children & Young People 2021](#)

15th September 2021, Online

For any enquiries, please call 0330 0584 285 or email Enquiries@governmentevents.co.uk



Thank you for attending our conference.

We hope you found the day interesting and insightful. Speaker presentations will be made available to download on completing the post show survey which will be emailed to you within one week after the event.

Government Events, 71-75 Shelton Street, Covent Garden, London,
WC2H 9JQ

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