

Supervision: Examples of Good Practice

Example of Multi-Agency Supervision in the children's workforce, Northern Devon

Each half term, 2 CAMHS workers meet with the care staff from the local EBD school and another CAMHS staff member and the Educational Psychologist, meet with the education staff from the school. The school caters for young men aged 11-16 yrs from across Devon – all have a statement of educational need and many have complex additional needs with social care issues.

The care staff supervision offered is for one & a half hours and each session focuses on one pupil. We start by asking what staff know about the young person, their family and the history. Often this is patchy and if we are able to find out more information we will do so. We will also include other professionals in the supervision who may have a history of working with the young person and family.

We then look at the challenging behaviours as well as the strengths, and try to understand together where the behaviours may come from, what they mean and how best to respond to them.

Each member of staff is encouraged to consider any individual interventions to support the young person.

Feedback from the supervision sessions has been very positive and staff report improvements in the challenging behaviours shown by those young people previously discussed.

The supervision sessions are a wonderful opportunity to share thoughts with a full staff group and to learn from one another. CAMHS have a good understanding of emotional and mental health needs and are well placed to offer a reflective space to such staff.