We would like to invite you to take part in our study:

What Mental Health Support is Needed in Schools in the Context of Covid-19?

We are inviting you to take part because you work in a mainstream secondary school to provide mental health support to students.

Our research team, led by Professor Mina Fazel from the University of Oxford, Department of Psychiatry, is investigating what mental health support is needed in schools in the context of Covid-19.

We have been asked by the local authority, commissioners and service managers to investigate what mental health support you believe might be needed in schools in the context of Covid-19 to help plan services.

As school mental health workers, we would like to know what you have been doing and where you think changes might be needed to plan for the new normal once schools return.

What does the study involve?
• You will be invited to take part in an interview, either over the telephone or a secure Microsoft Teams meeting link.
• The interview will be with Elise Sellars (Research Assistant) and should take approximately 30 minutes.
• In the interview, we will ask you some questions around the following topics: your experiences of providing mental health support during lockdown and how to plan and prepare for students returning to schools.

What happens if I want to take part?
• Please email Elise Sellars who will provide a more detailed explanation of the study, as well as providing you with answers to any questions you may have. Contact details can be found on this information sheet.
• Arrangements can then be made for you to be interviewed at a time to suit you.

We would also like you to know that...
• You do not have to take part. You can ask questions about the research before deciding whether or not to participate.
• If you do decide to participate, you may withdraw yourself from the study at any time, without giving a reason, by letting the researchers know of this decision.
• Before the interview starts, we will first talk you through the study and give you the chance to ask any questions. If you are still happy to take part, we will ask you to consent verbally to being interviewed. This will be audio recorded.
• The discussions will be audio recorded, so that we can have an accurate record of your thoughts. Due to the required outcome of the research, it will not be possible to participate if you are unable to consent to being recorded.

Are there any benefits in taking part?
There will be no direct benefit to you from taking part in this study, but we hope that the findings will provide schools and services with a better understanding of how to plan mental health services in schools in the context of Covid-19.

To thank you for your participation, you will receive £20 via emailed Amazon vouchers.

Contact details:
Principal Investigator:
Prof Mina Fazel
Department of Psychiatry,
Warneford Hospital,
Warneford Lane,
Oxford,
OX3 7JX
Email: mina.fazel@psych.ox.ac.uk

Co-Principal Investigator:
Prof Cathy Creswell
Email: cathy.creswell@psych.ox.ac.uk

Research Assistant:
Elise Sellars
Email: elise.sellars@psych.ox.ac.uk
Are there any potential risks in taking part?
It is very unlikely that you will suffer any harm or distress from taking part. If you disclose something about your wellbeing which is concerning, we will guide you to appropriate support structures within your professional group and place of work. We will also advise you to see your GP if needed and the PI will be informed of this immediately after the interview.

If you raise concerns about a child or another staff member during the interview, then the Principal Investigator (PI) will follow-up the concern with the designated safeguarding lead of the school.

What if there is a problem?
If you have a concern about any aspect of this study, please contact Mina Fazel (mina.fazel@psych.ox.ac.uk) who will do her best to answer your query. We will acknowledge your concern within 10 working days and give you an indication of how it will be dealt with. If you remain unhappy or wish to make a formal complaint, please contact the Chair of the Medical Sciences Interdivisional Research Ethics Committee at the University of Oxford who will seek to resolve the matter as soon as possible:

Email: ethics@medsci.ox.ac.uk;
Address: Research Services, University of Oxford, Wellington Square, Oxford OX1 2JD

Who is organising and funding the research?
This research is being organised by the University of Oxford, Department of Psychiatry (Professor Mina Fazel). It is being funded via an Applied Research Collaboration National Institute for Health Research (NIHR) grant.

Data Protection
The University of Oxford is the data controller with respect to your personal data, and as such will determine how your personal data is used in the study.

The University will process your personal data for the purpose of the work outlined above. Research is a task that we perform in the public interest.

Further information about your rights with respect to your personal data is available from:
http://www.admin.ox.ac.uk/councilsec/compliance/gdpr/individualrights