**Mental Health Champion Accreditation Process**

Before beginning to consider working towards the Mental Health Champions (MHC) award, a school must have its GHLL accreditation. The key difference between the GHLL accreditation and MHC award is that the latter focuses on the whole school ethos and practice that is embedded across the school: children, staff, parents, governors, curriculum and leadership team. And whereas the GHLL accreditation can be achieved when a school has several areas which they are aware need developing in terms of emotional health and wellbeing, the MHC is a ‘gold standard’ award - all areas of emotional health and wellbeing need to be fully in place in the school, with pupils and staff clear and confident in relation to their understanding of wellbeing. Therefore, before embarking on the MHC award process you should consider the following:

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| **Are you ready to go for the MHC Award?**   * Do you currently hold the GHLL accreditation? * Is there a member of staff or a group of staff in your school responsible for mental health? * Does your school’s senior leadership team promote positive mental health for the whole school community? * Is emotional health and wellbeing a priority within your school, e.g. a part of your SDP or similar documentation? * Do you have a nominated school governor responsible for EHWB? * Have a significant number of your staff undergone Mental Health First Aid Training?   If you have answered **yes** to *all* of the above, **then you are ready for the next steps…** |

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| **Step 1**  Contact your GHLL Lead Teacher to let them know that you are engaging in the process.  Update your Review; **all** the MH questions must be ‘in place’ and all other sections have to be ‘mostly in place’ or ‘in place’. Ensure the commentary in the evidence box makes explicit the link between the work carried out in school and pupil/staff wellbeing wherever possible.  Identify/continue to work on the two MH Interventions. |

When you feel you are ready to submit, **this is the process that needs to be followed…**

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| **Step 2**  Meet with your Lead Teacher to let them know that you are ready to submit.  Your Lead Teacher will check your Review and Interventions and identify any changes which need to be made before submission. |

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| **Step 3**  Create your portfolio of evidence to support your application. This can be in a physical or electronic form and should demonstrate the wide range of provision for emotional health and wellbeing in your school. |

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| **Step 4**  Your Lead Teacher will talk you through the Learning Walk process. |

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| **Step 5**  Submit for the Mental Health Champion Award |

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| **Step 6**  Communicate with your Lead Teacher to organise a date for your Learning Walk  Learning Walk takes place and **must** include:   * meeting with the following - Head Teacher, pupils, members of staff/governor * tour of the school (usually conducted by students) * portfolio of evidence * Anything else the school wishes to showcase |

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| **Following the above steps:**  Your LT will write a statement to support your application which will go forward to the Quality Assurance Group (QUAG)  The QUAG will meet to review your submission and, as long as there no queries, will grant the award. |