

Education past, present & future

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Digital academic scrapbook

introduction..

In this digital scrapbook i am going to demonstrate an understanding of how current affairs can affect our education system. With reference to current affairs i am going to explain my understanding of key issues within modern day education by creating a range of evidence on my chosen issues with are mental health, poverty and finance.

Mental health

DID YOU KNOW?

43.8 million adults
experience mental illness
in a given year



16 million adults
had at least one major depression
episode in the last year

that's **21.4%**
1-in-5 youth
aged 13-18
experience a severe mental disorder at some point in their life

59%
of adults with a mental illness didn't
receive health services in the last year

Statistics retrieved from NAMI

MENTAL HEALTH FACTS

MENTAL HEALTH AND SUBSTANCE USE CONDITIONS ARE COMMON

18%
OF ADULTS HAVE A
MENTAL HEALTH
CONDITION

THAT'S OVER
43 MILLION
AMERICANS

NEARLY HALF
HAVE A
CO-OCCURRING
SUBSTANCE
ABUSE
DISORDER

9.6 MILLION
EXPERIENCE
SUICIDAL
IDEATION

MOST AMERICANS LACK ACCESS TO CARE

56%
OF AMERICAN ADULTS WITH A MENTAL
ILLNESS DID NOT RECEIVE TREATMENT

1 IN 5 REPORT AN UNMET NEED

7.7%
OF YOUTH HAD
NO ACCESS
TO MENTAL HEALTH
SERVICES THROUGH
THEIR PRIVATE
INSURANCE

YOUTH MENTAL HEALTH IS WORSENING AND ACCESS TO CARE IS LIMITED

IN A FIVE YEAR PERIOD, RATES OF
SEVERE YOUTH DEPRESSION
HAVE INCREASED

OVER 1.7 MILLION
YOUTH WITH MAJOR
DEPRESSIVE EPISODES
DID NOT
RECEIVE TREATMENT

THERE IS A SHORTAGE OF PROVIDERS

IN ALABAMA,
THERE'S ONLY
ONE MENTAL
HEALTH
PROFESSIONAL
PER 1,260 PEOPLE

TO MEET THE NEED FOR MENTAL HEALTH CARE, PROVIDERS IN THE
LOWEST RANKED STATES WOULD HAVE TO TREAT **SIX TIMES AS**
MANY PEOPLE THAN PROVIDERS IN THE HIGHEST RANKED STATES

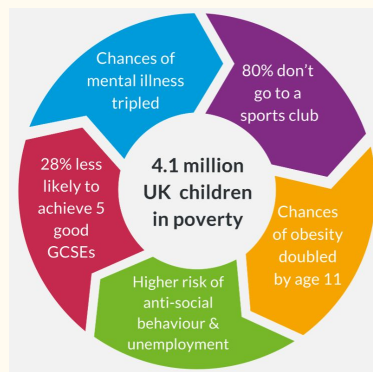
HEALTHCARE REFORM IS HELPING

RATES OF UNINSURED
ADULTS WITH A MENTAL
ILLNESS DECREASED BY
5%

STATES THAT INCREASED
MEDICAID EXPANSION...
...SAW GREATER IMPROVEMENT
IN YOUTH COVERAGE
...HAD FEWER UNINSURED ADULTS
WITH MENTAL ILLNESS

SOURCE:
NATIONAL TRENDS OF U.S. STATE POLICY TRENDS IN 2013 MENTAL HEALTH SERVICES
2013 <http://www.nami.org/About-NAMI/Publications-Reports/State-Policy-Trends-in-2013-Mental-Health-Services>

MHA
Mental Health America



DID YOU KNOW?

1 IN 5 CHILDREN FROM THE AGES 13-18 WILL LIVE WITH A MENTAL ILLNESS



ONLY 30% OF DEPRESSED TEENS ARE BEING TREATED



MENTAL ILLNESSES CAN AFFECT



According to NAMI and psychcentral

DEPRESSION AND ANXIETY ARE THE MOST COMMON MENTAL ILLNESSES



90% OF THOSE WHO COMMITTED SUICIDE HAD AN UNDERLYING MENTAL ILLNESS

In the UK, 4.1 million children live in poverty, facing an uphill struggle to live healthy, happy lives. The wellbeing of these children, a fundamental human right, is compromised.

These children can fall into a vicious cycle from an early age. Consequences include poor health and low academic attainment along with a depleted sense of purpose, low aspirations and confidence.

Children growing up in poverty are three times more likely to suffer mental health issues and twice as likely to face obesity than their more affluent peers. These children are less likely to be active, less likely to achieve high grades and more likely to engage in anti-social behaviour.

A whole school approach is the most meaningful and impactful way to build resilience in your staff and pupils, including those who are more vulnerable. By helping you to assess your school system and embed approaches such as Academic Resilience across the school, pupils and staff will learn how to cope with change and adversity, to enjoy learning and to look after their mental health and wellbeing.

Our vision is for wellbeing and good mental health to become a strategic priority, embedded into the culture and ethos of every school.

Our aims:

- Support schools to implement a whole school approach to mental health and wellbeing
- Increase awareness of the importance of promoting children and young people's emotional wellbeing and how this connects to learning
- Inspire education settings to incorporate measures that will improve children and young people's wellbeing
- Equip teachers, staff and young people with the skills and knowledge to prioritise and address wellbeing and mental health

Why this matters:

- Half of lifetime mental illness starts by the age of 14
- Suicide is one of the leading causes of death for young people
- In an average classroom, 4 children will have a clinically diagnosed mental health condition, 7 will have been bullied and 8 will have experienced severe physical violence, sexual abuse or neglect
- Early intervention and a whole school approach can be highly effective in improving wellbeing and reducing the impact of mental health problems

Gender and age

The type and frequency of mental health disorders is different across ages and genders and, overall, rates of mental disorders rose with age.

Boys were more likely to have a disorder among younger age groups, and girls were more likely to have a disorder among older age groups. For the 17-19 age group, nearly 1 in 4 young women had a disorder, with emotional disorders (particularly anxiety) the most commonly reported.

It is concerning that, of young women in this age group with a disorder, over half (52.7%) reported that they had self-harmed or attempted suicide.

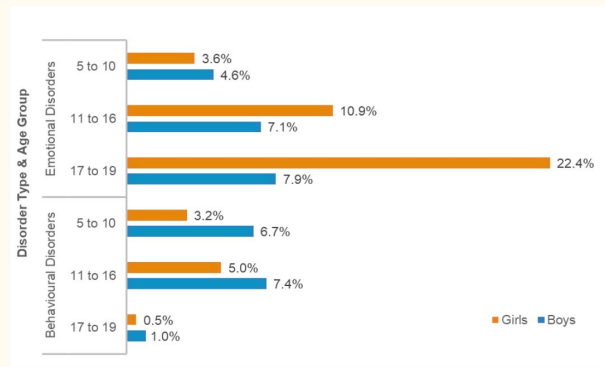
How many children have mental health problems?

The last survey, conducted in 2004, found that 1 in 10 children aged 5-15 had a mental health disorder (either emotional, behavioural, hyperactive, or other). In the newly released 2017 figures, this has risen to 1 in 9.

When we include older children and look across all children and young people aged 5-19, we find that 1 in 8 (12.8%) have at least one mental disorder.

This change was largely driven by an increase in emotional disorders (including anxiety and depression), which for 5-15-year-olds rose from 3.9% in 2004 to 5.8% in 2017.

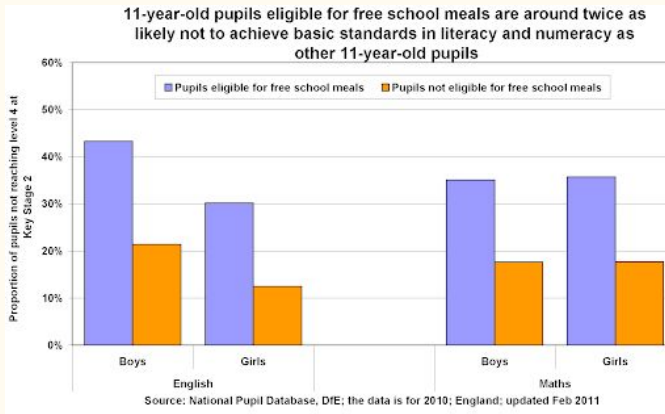
Across the whole group of 5-19-year olds, around 1 in 12 (8.1%) reported an emotional disorder.



10% of children and young people (aged 5-16 years) have a clinically diagnosable mental health problem, yet 70% of children and adolescents who experience mental health problems have not had appropriate interventions at a sufficiently early age.

(Children's Society, 2008)

Poverty



WHAT ARE CHILDREN'S RIGHTS?

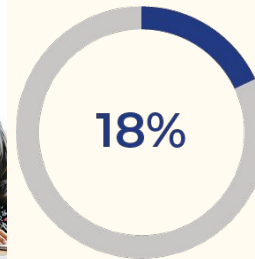
In 1989, the United Nations adopted the Convention on the Rights of the Child, the most widely-ratified international human rights treaty in history. The vision of the Convention is to offer the rights and responsibilities to each child appropriate to his or her age to enable them to reach their full potential. Each child is viewed as an individual, a member of a family and the community.

The four Guiding Principles of the Convention on the Rights of the Child are:

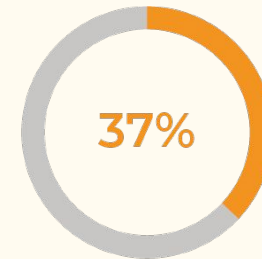
1. Respect for the best interests of the child as a primary consideration
2. The right to survival and development
3. The right of all children to express their views freely on all matters affecting them
4. The right of all children to enjoy all the rights of the CRC without discrimination of any kind.

Children growing up in poorer families emerge from school with substantially lower levels of educational attainment. This is a major contributing factor to patterns of social mobility and poverty. This study – based on the analysis of several major large scale longitudinal data sets – suggests some potentially important influences, including:

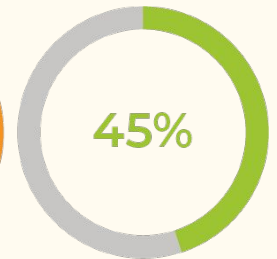
- Early years: the richness of the early home learning environment.
- Primary school: maternal aspirations for higher education, how far parents and children believe their own actions can affect their lives, and children's behavioural problems.
- Secondary school: teenagers' and parents' expectations for higher education, access to material resources, and engagement in anti-social behaviour.
- Across childhood: parents' own cognitive abilities.



of all children



of children who receive
Free School Meals



of children with
Special Educational
Needs

Finance

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School funding

This article is more than 9 months old

Funding for 80% of schools in England 'worse next year than 2015'

School Cuts coalition warns of real-terms cuts despite government's cash injection

Sally Weale Education correspondent



Money

Like a lot of political issues, money is a big factor. Last year, a group of more than 4,000 headteachers wrote a **letter to parents**, warning them that there simply isn't enough money in the school system to run it effectively. The way that funding is handed out to schools has been altered by the government. However, headteachers warn that it is still something of a postcode lottery and children living in poorer areas won't have the same resources as those living in more well-off parts.

The lack of school funding means that parents are often having to pick up the slack. When we talk about the cost of putting your child through education, we're often talking about university. But it's expensive for parents at all stages of the education system. **This Irish education costs study from Zurich** gives some insight into the amount of money needed to put children in Britain through school. Now that the schools themselves can't afford to supply things like free after school activities and free breakfast, the burden falls on the parents. This means that children from families that aren't as well off aren't going to get as good an education as their wealthier peers.

This funding issue does, of course, extend to universities. Now that the UK is one of the most expensive places in the world to get a degree, the wealth divide in education is becoming more pronounced.

Secondary school spending cuts may result in fewer young people achieving success by 16, but there is an equally worrying risk, that the Department for Education ([DfE](#)) robs Peter to pay Paul. History shows that DfE may be tempted to raid post-16 budgets to tackle problems relating to overspending in schools. The impact of this would be to increase the drop in funding for 16 to 19-year-olds compared with 11 to 16-year-olds, which currently stands at about 22% reduction.

We stand by our call for Government to increase overall education spending from 4.5% of GDP to 5% and will be asking for this to be addressed in the spring budget. There are alternatives other than simply putting more money into education, of course.

One obvious area to look at is the drain on school budgets caused by small class sizes in their sixth forms. Research in 2015 calculated that secondary schools are subsidising their sixth forms at a rate of £1,000 a pupil. This represents a cost of more than £400 million to the 11-16 budget. Despite this, DfE has encouraged secondary schools to open sixth forms and approved 300 new ones in the last 10 years without ever having carried out any research on the impact this has on quality, breadth of offer and viability of schools and colleges. That research is now long overdue.

What are children's rights?

Most children and adults do not know that children have their own unique set of rights granted to them under international law.

But every child born into this world has rights, no matter who they are or where they live.



In this assessment i am going to be supporting my digital scrapbook on key issues within modern day education with a 500 word evaluation on the topics i have decided to research, these topics are mental health, poverty and finance.

The first key issue within education that I am going to be talking about is mental health.

Mental health has always been a problem in school settings as everyone suffers from mental health throughout life, including students. This is a problem that has always been in the education system and unfortunately always will be as problems in someones private life can also be a factor. Mental health can stem from problems in someone's private life and often result in depression, tiredness and anxiety which can have a major effect on how well a student does on their exams as this can make a student less focussed and less motivated to try and get a good grade and attend lessons. The National Education Union (NEU) reported that teachers were aware of students suffering with low mental health and self harming, but struggled to support students as schools didn't have the funding and facilities to do so.

From the beginning of education up until today's education system there has been a rapid increase in reported bad mental health in students, 15% more females than males, so the BBC made a report that stated schools in England will deliver mental health awareness classes to all students from 2020 to help students and teachers more aware and able to deal with it. After the report was made public, Samaritans Cymru suggested to The Welsh Government that Wales should follow suit.

After much research I found a report from The NCHA that had written depression is the second factor for bad mental health for school aged children. Children schooling age can suffer from mental health from things like exam worries or pressure from home from parents encouraging children to get good grades. Good grades and pressure from parents go hand in hand as Childline reports that children suffer from poor mental health mostly around exam period as they can feel anxious and worried about sitting exams and getting good grades, whilst also having pressure from parents to do the best you can.

Childline also reported that since 2016 counselling sessions have risen and YouGov back this with evidence that says one in four students now suffer with mental health problems. As these counselling sessions have been increasing 77% of reported mental health issues are depression and a staggering 74% is anxiety.

As time has gone on mental health issues have risen rapidly. More students are suffering with no support as schools don't have the funding to help, the severity of the reported cases are suffering at an extensive rate. Without any support in place bad mental health has resulted in students self harming themselves and even committing suicide.

Next I am going to talk about how finance is a key issue within modern day education.

Financial issues surrounding modern day education is a major key issue. This is an issue that students from all ages suffer and from anywhere on the globe. From a Government perspective finance invested in school can lead to poverty, however, the main funding issue starts with the school itself. If a school is properly funded and has the correct resources to deliver high quality class it is reported children are more likely to leave with higher grades. Even after having this information, Shout Out UK reported that due to funding cuts by the Government that schools could not invest in resources to use in classrooms and deliver good quality lessons, therefore children's grades would not be as good.

Schools suffering financial cuts would not be able to afford things like breakfast clubs and outdoor equipment, which would inevitably become the parent of the child's problem. As a result of this, it could create another problem as a less financially stable parent would struggle to financially support the school and therefore start to have financial problems at home.

The BBC reported that since 2010 the number of schools that have suffered financial cuts has risen in recent years. I have experienced this first hand as my Comprehensive School, Bishopston Comprehensive School, is a government funded school, but due to yearly cuts each individual had to pay an amount a year to fund the school to cover cost of resources etc, and this amount increased annually. Financial issues in a private school setting is very different as the school does not rely on the Government at all for financial support, but instead the parents of the pupils attending support the school and all its expenditures fully.

Although this is a global issue, which part you live in can determine how much your education will suffer and how much school cuts you will get. In the areas that have these more drastic cuts, students lose the opportunities to have after school clubs and breakfast clubs, which as a result of this could mean a parent could not work as many hours to support their family better so be financially unstable.

In a study undertaken by Blacbullin University in 2014 it said one in ten students admitted the reason they dropped out of University was because of financial issues. A more severe University final cut by the Government was the nursing bursary which was banned in 2016 which led to less students having access to the course as they were not financially about and then having a direct impact on our society as there was a shortage of NHS nurses. With financial cuts in school, children in poverty will be less likely to have the resources to excel in any sports or music for example, so therefore will not be able to be the best they could be if the resources are accessible.

Finally, the last factor I am going to talk about which impacts modern education is poverty. Poverty has and always will be a problem within modern education. Kristina Birdsong said that she believes poverty majorly affects education and children, and the children who live in poverty could as a result suffer from poor mental health, poor hygiene and even malnutrition. This could have major consequences for their results as if they suffer with these things in poverty they could become ill and have to take time off school, and as a result of missing school leave with poor grades.

Sociologists have studied theories on how poverty affects the less privileged and noticed that children who weren't in poverty had better grades as they had access to things like a tutor, or clubs to support their hobbies and interests and therefore make them better at it if the resources are available to them. As a result of the gap between the children who were financially stable and the ones who were not, Karl Marx wanted communism for a lot of reasons which include quality in education and children to all have access to basic resources to make them strive.

ChildFund wrote an article which says poverty and poor education hand in hand can lead to life long problems, which include not giving a child enough support in their studies which therefore gives them bad exam grades and makes their chances of getting a well paid job smaller.

Children born into poverty unfortunately don't get the privilege to attend a private school or institution. Statistics show 96% of children who attended a private school got into their first choice University whilst only 16% of students who got government benefits got into the University of their choice.

The Guardian Newspaper gave 900 UK teachers a survey to fill with 100% honesty, and believed the results of the teachers comments indicated that poverty in education has got worse since 2015.

Poverty in education is a cycle and hard to get out of as if you're born into poverty you are less likely to get good grades and a well paid job, so unfortunately when you have children of your own they will also be born into poverty and undergo the same life cycle.

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