
What are the Challenges support staff face since Covid?

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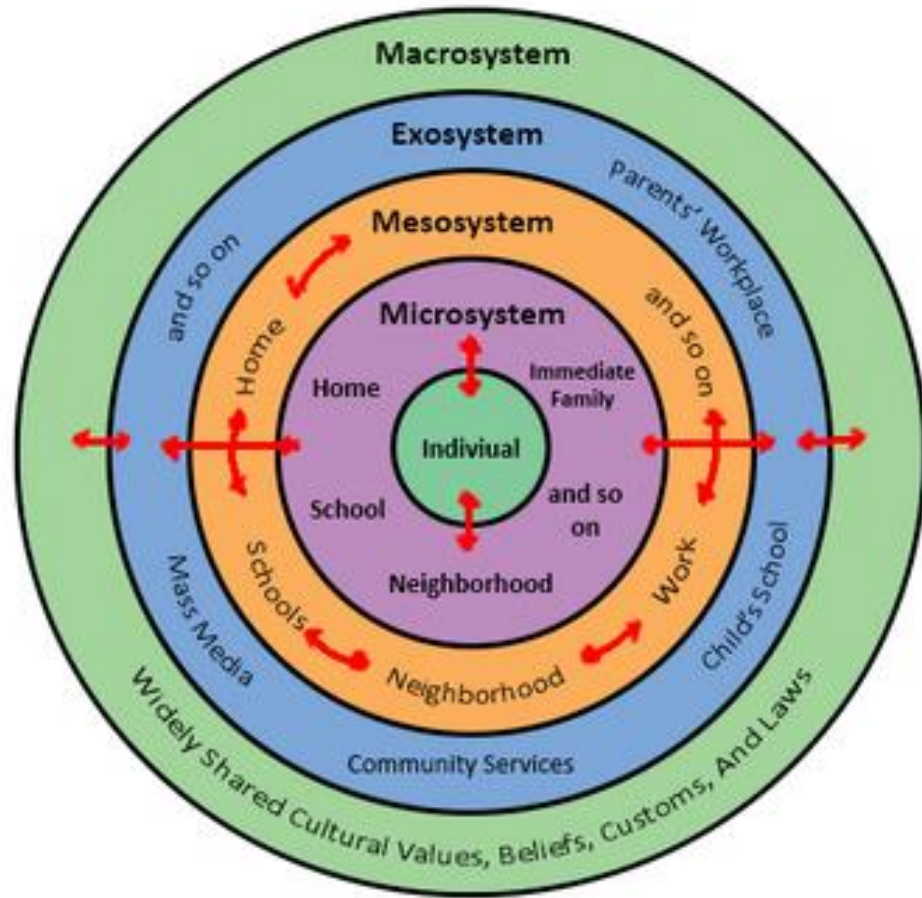
Image: Psychologs, (2023)

“More than 60 per cent of children and young people experience difficult emotions or mental health issues at least once a week in Wales”.

(Senedd Cymru, 2020)



Bronfenbrenner's ecological system



Microsystem/ Maesosystem

- Social connection and interactions with peers/extended family reduced
- Increased caring duties
- Exposure to Mortality and Morbidity
- Home conditions/ Lack of necessities / Increased Tensions

Exosystem

- Job Vulnerability of Parents – Financial insecurity
- School Closures / Parents Homeschooling
- Closure of community clubs / Mental Health services reduced

Macrosystem

- Economic Crisis – Financial hardship
- Increased exposure to Social Media / News
- Government restrictions – Isolation / Online Learning



How do the ecological systems impact well-being?

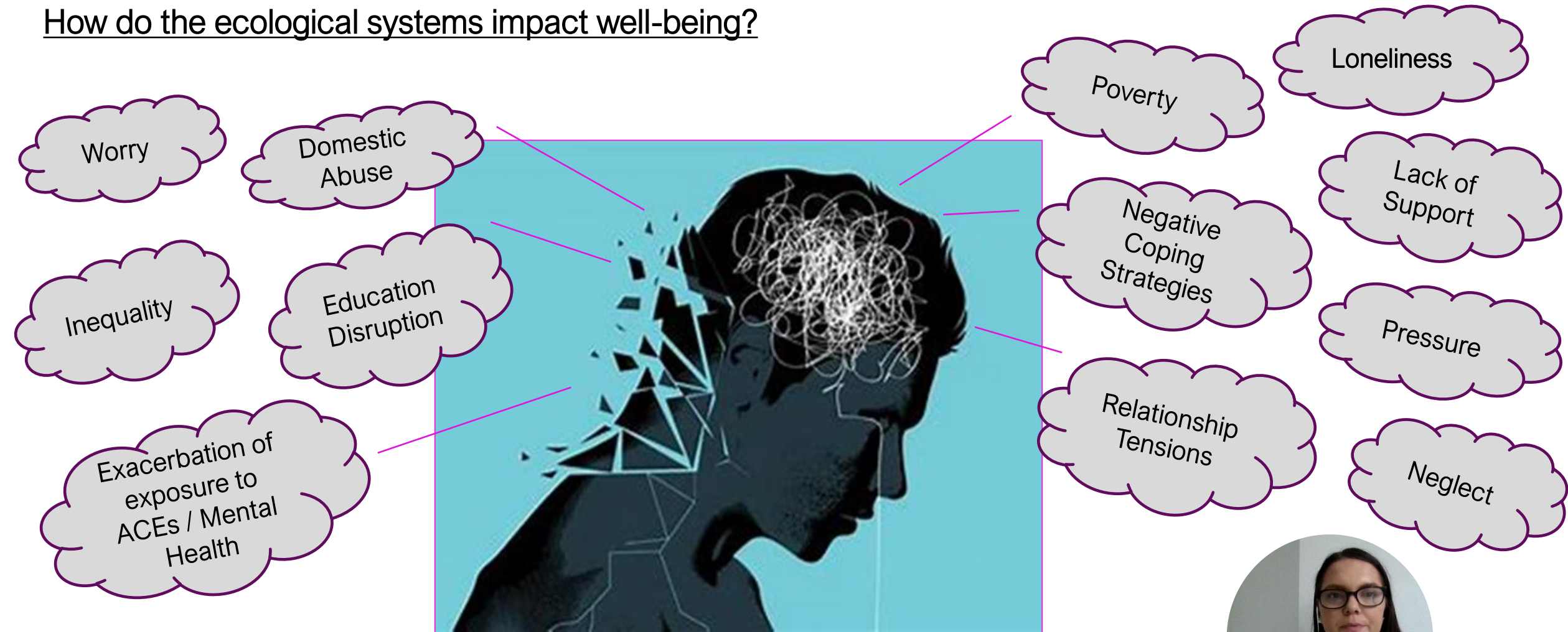


Image: Shutterstock, (2017)



Adverse Childhood Experiences (ACE's)

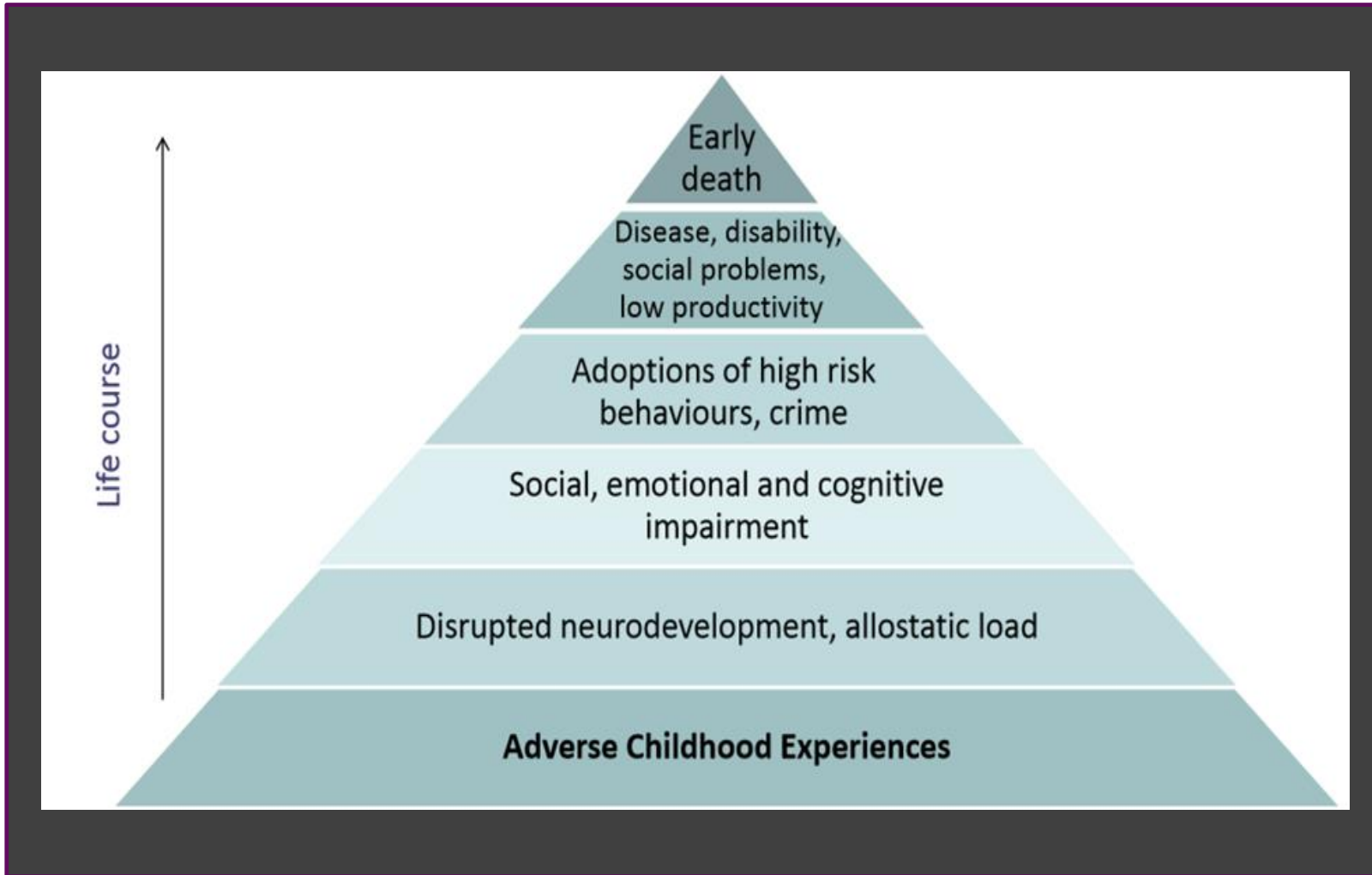


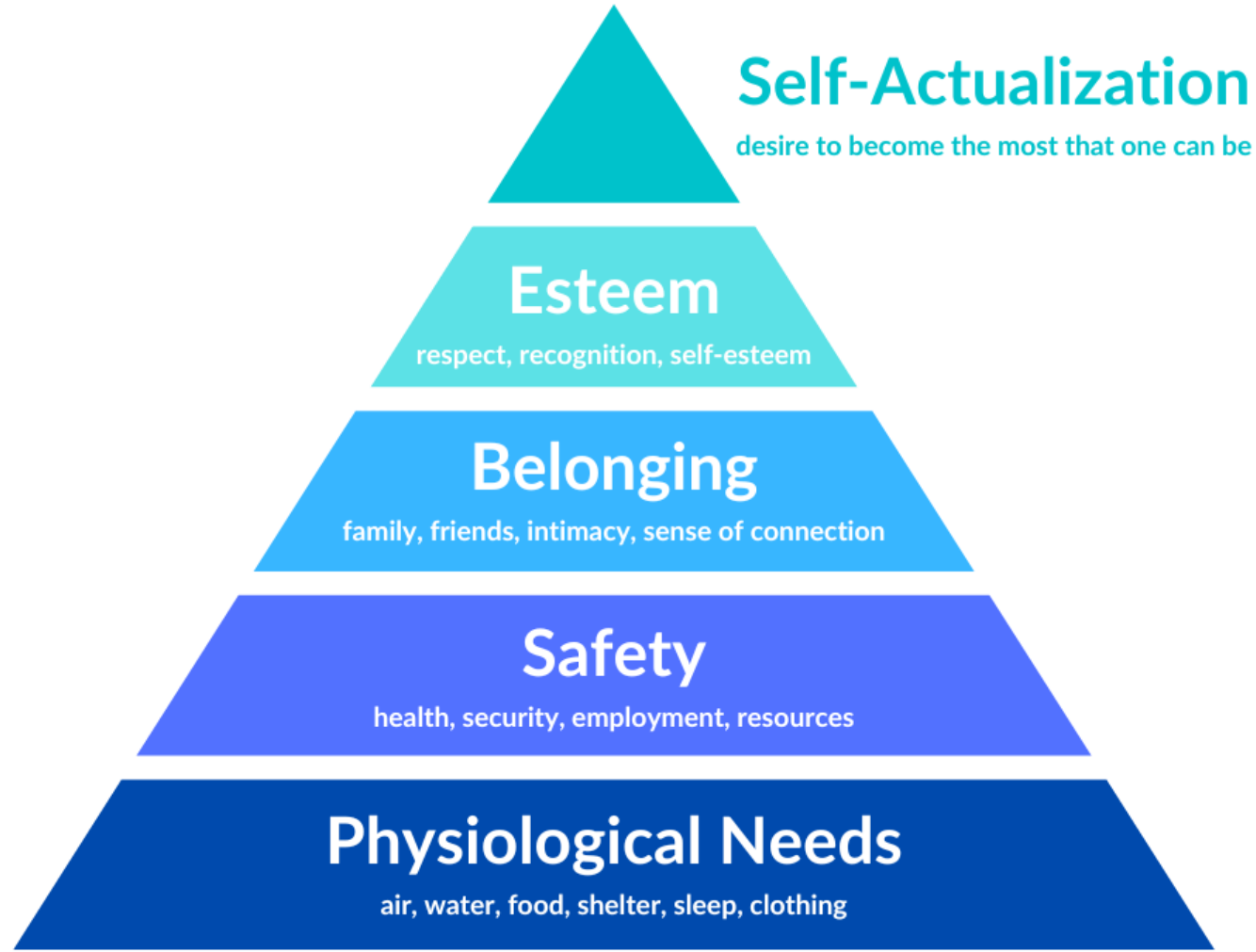
Image: Peopletoo, (2018)

Adverse Childhood Experiences (ACES) denote traumatic events or conditions occurring throughout childhood that may result in detrimental outcomes throughout an individual's life.

(Welsh Government, 2021)



Maslow Hierarchy of Needs



Maslow's framework illustrating human motivation.



Impact on Pupils returning to school post Covid with heightened wellbeing and mental health



*Dan Siegel's
concept of
the Window
of Tolerance*



Image: Chateaufrecovery, (2024)

Supporting Pupil wellbeing and mental health post Covid

- Humanist / Therapeutical approach
- Importance of Unconditional Positive Regard / Congruence
- Importance of relationships and secure attachments
- Importance of understanding the Neuroscience and barriers to learning
- Importance of a Whole school Approach



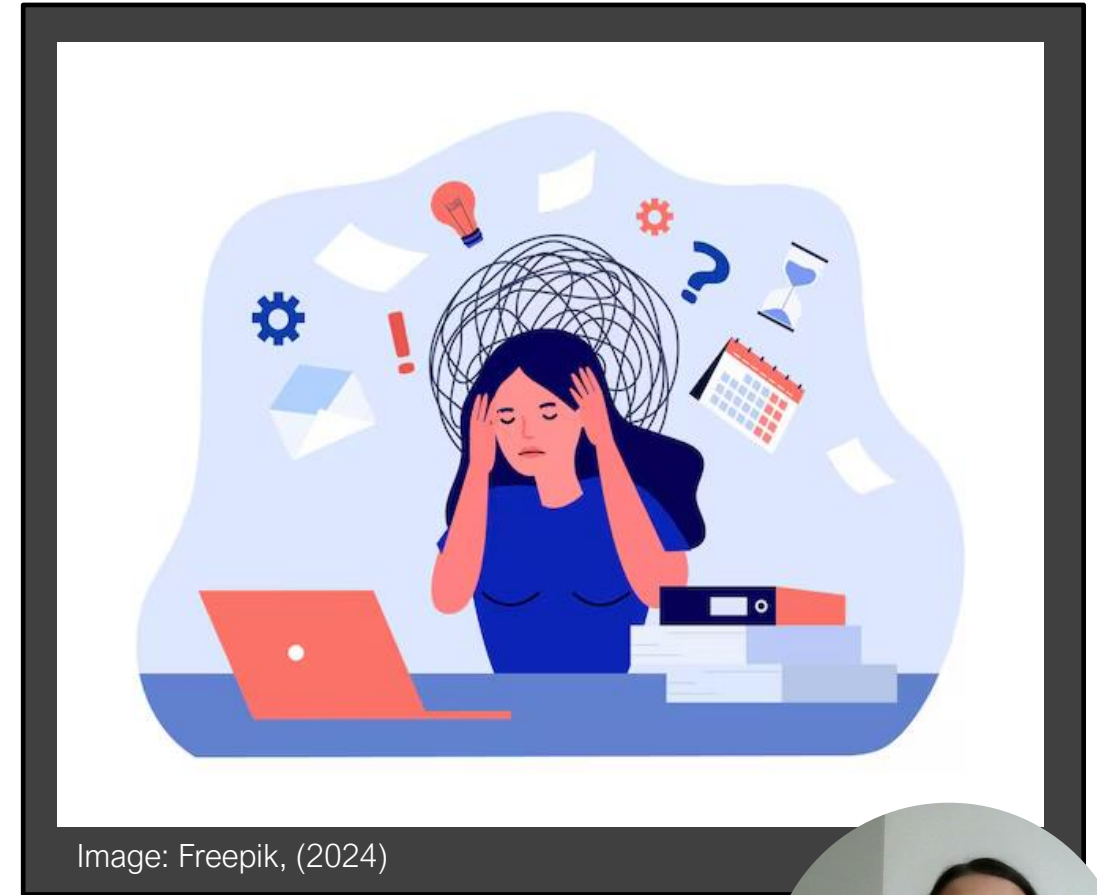
Image: Bloompeople, (2020)

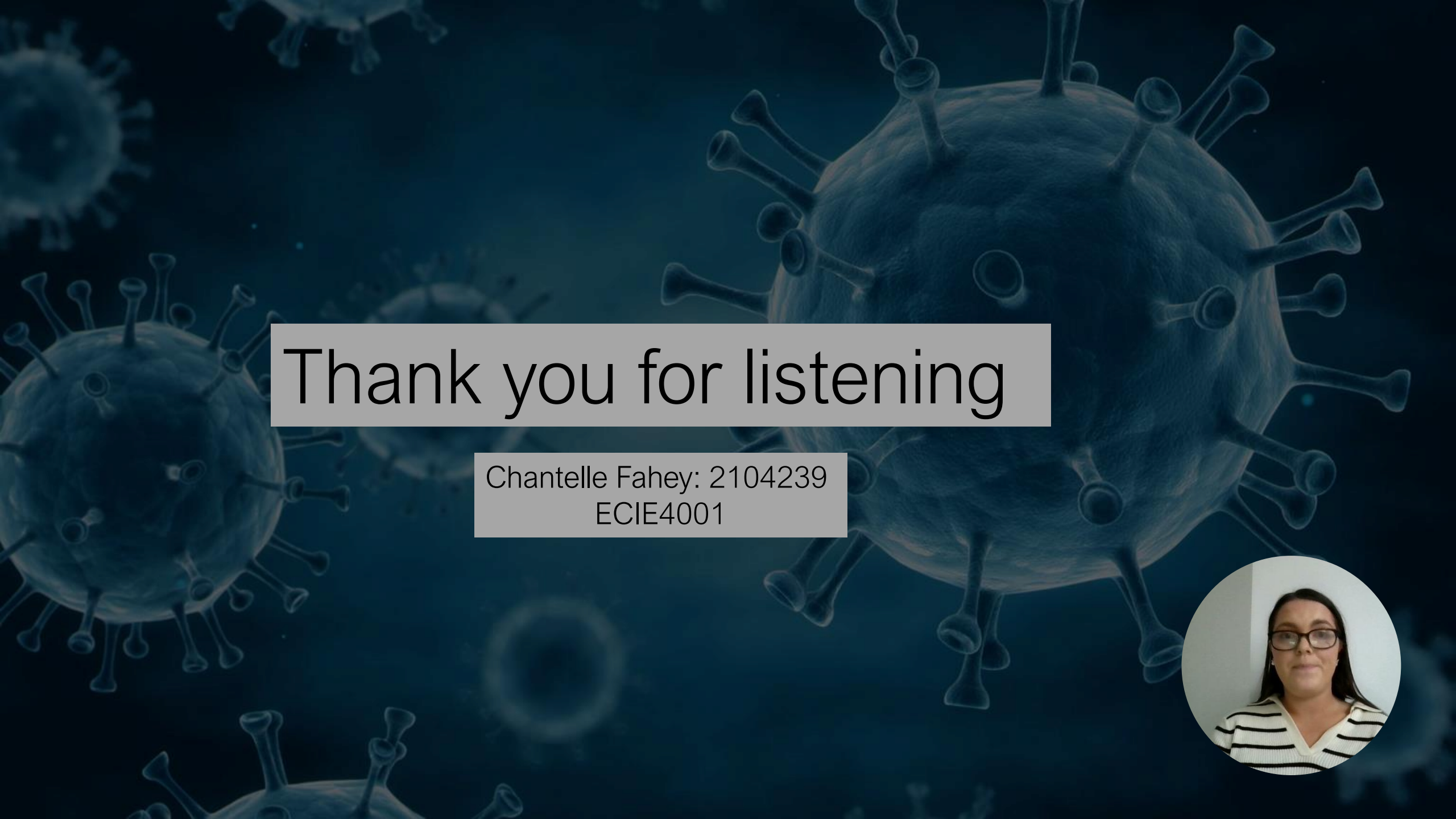


Image: Shutterstock, (2021)

Impact on Support staff

- Role of TA multifaceted.
- Professional Standards & Expectations
- Intensity and demand of workload.
- Lack of experience and preparation.
- Lack of appreciation.
- Low income.
- Risk of burn-out.
- Challenging behaviour of pupils / Safeguarding concerns/ Added stress affecting their mental health.





Thank you for listening

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Link to Presentation

[ECIE4001PowerpointRD \(1\).pptx](#)

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