



Whilst many children are getting excited for Christmas, let's not forget the impact this season can have on our mental health. The Mind website has useful advice and explains how the period around Christmas and new year might affect you. It also gives tips on how to cope and suggestions for supporting someone else.

How might Christmas affect my mental health?

What can I do to get through Christmas? Why Christmas is a hard time Tips for coping during Christmas (eg. coping with money worries, looking after yourself, planning ahead, managing relationships, talking to other people & getting support) Things that can help & Things to avoid

Some of the reasons that Christmas can feel tough, and may affect your mental health may be: * Money worries * Practical issues * People who aren't around * Loneliness * Difficult situations and relationships * Society and the outside world * Access to support and services * Being in hospital

If Christmas is a hard time for you, it's important to **remember that you are not alone**. There are things you can try that might help, such as:

Learn about why Christmas is hard for many people Read tips to help you cope at Christmas Find ways to support others during Christmas Discover useful contacts for finding support at Christmas



Let's look out for and support one another





Mental Health & Wellbeing Focus Group

In the new year, all interested parents, carers & family members will be invited to become a part of our school's Mental Health & Wellbeing Focus Group.

Our vision is to build and maintain a culture that raises mental health awareness, recognises the importance of good mental health and wellbeing and seek to provide effective support when it is needed to whoever needs it.

Our goals include:

- To increase knowledge and awareness of mental health and wellbeing issues and behaviours.
- To reduce stigma around mental health & it's difficulties.
- To facilitate active participation in a range of initiatives that support mental health and wellbeing.
- Seek necessary training and resources to deliver the above.
- To provide or signpost support for those affected from issues relating to deterioration in their wellbeing.

Initially, we will have an open session to formulate a plan of topics to discuss at future sessions. Meetings will be arranged to suit the majority of stakeholders.

If you wish to be a part of this exciting new project, please complete the attached slip and return it by email to Alternatively, if you are not able to be part of our group but wish to make viable suggestions, this can be done on the attached and e-mailed to admin@theavenueinf.northants.sch.uk

THE 🚧 VENUE INFANT SCHOOL	
Mental Health & Wellbeing Image: Mental Health & Wellbeing Focus Group. Image: Mental Health & Wellbeing Focus Group.	STOP STIGMA
Unfortunately, I am unable to participate in the sessions and do not wish to be include NAME:	d in the group
CHILD'S NAME:	
THE BEST TIME FOR MEETINGS WOULD BE:	
SUGGESTIONS FOR TOPICS TO DISCUSS:	- - -
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Please e-mail this page once completed to: admin@theavenue-inf.northants.sch.uk



Expert advice on coping with the mental health impact of the rising cost of living is on offer in the run up to Christmas.

The free webinars, run by NHFT Talking Therapies, will offer useful advice, practical ideas, and general coping strategies to help people at this difficult time.

Whether it's managing worry, problem solving, tips on self-care, or practical support available locally, the online sessions aim to help.

The Financial Stress Webinar take place on:

Tuesday 20 December – 6pm-8pm

Yasmin Bailey, Talking Therapies' Senior Psychological Wellbeing Practitioner, said: "We know the increasing cost of household bills and worries about budgets and spending can have a significant impact on mental health, especially in the run up to Christmas. With this in mind, we've launched these webinars as a new and innovative way to share real practical solutions which can help people who find their mental health being impacted by difficult financial circumstances."