

# Get Set Looking after your mental health



## Keep yourself safe and well by:

- ✓ Understanding your mental health;
- ✓ Taking control of your mental health and sleep;
- ✓ Getting support at work;
- ✓ Use mental first aid tools in tough times;
- ✓ Looking after your physical health too.

## Understanding your mental health

- We all have mental health and we need to take care of it. Mental health is a spectrum.
- Better mental health means you can think, feel, and react appropriately for the situation.
   Sadness/anger, in moderation, are included.
- Poor mental health may occur at any point in our lives. It may impact how you're thinking, feeling and reacting, making everyday life feel more difficult or even impossible.
- Your position on the spectrum can vary, due to sleep, what you're doing, weather etc.
- Phone you GP /111 option 2 / our <u>Employee</u>
   <u>Assistance Programme</u> if you have serious
   or intrusive thoughts about self-harm/suicide.



Looking after your physical health will help your mental health. Check out Get Set – Looking after your physical health on Camweb.

# Take control of your mental health

- Make a plan of <u>how you'll look after your mental</u> <u>health</u> on both 'easier and 'more difficult' days.
- Aim to do something relaxing that you enjoy every day. Read a book, keep up a hobby like crafting or art, meditate, or do an online course.
- Manage your consumption of media/'bad' news.
   Prevent distress by not watching/reading the news too much. Avoid fake/hoax memes.
- Keep in contact with friends/family by phone etc.

### Sleep better – feel better

- Sleep is good for your physical and mental health – adults need 7-9 hours a night.
- Getting to sleep is easier if you have set bed/wake times and a 'wind down' routine.
- Screens can harm sleep, so turn off your phone/laptop! If you wake up in the night, use these tips to help you fall asleep.

#### Get support in work

- Speak to your line manager and people in your team, to keep connected at work.
- Mental Health First Aiders can listen and suggest sources of support in a crisis.
- Our <u>Employee Assistance Programme</u> can provide free online resources, telephone counselling, legal and medical advice.
- If reasonable adjustments would help you stay safe and effective while experiencing mental health difficulties ask your manager about <u>SARA</u> (Supporting Attendance Risk Assess).

#### Use mental first aid tools

• If you're having a tough time now, start by taking a few deeps slow breaths.

#### Keeping yourself grounded

Feeling anxious? Reconnect with where you are.

Name 5 things you can see (e.g. table, tree)

Name 4 things you can feel (seat, clothes)

Name 3 things you hear (birds, traffic)

Name 2 things you can smell (perfume, tea)

Name 1 thing you can taste (tea)

 Check out the <u>NHS Every Mind Matters</u> resources for more tips and tools to help.



Customer violence or aggression may impact your mental health. We have <u>lone working / personal safety</u> tools to help. Don't forget to <u>report incidents</u> of violence/aggression.