Start where you are and do what you can:

How trauma informed practice came to Hallam University and what we did with it.....

Brisbane 2026

University of Chester

Sheffield Hallam University
Knowledge Applied

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Professor Sue O'Brien

Head of Chester School of Education, University of Chester

Professor Sally Pearse

Director, Early Years Community Research Centre, Sheffield Hallam University



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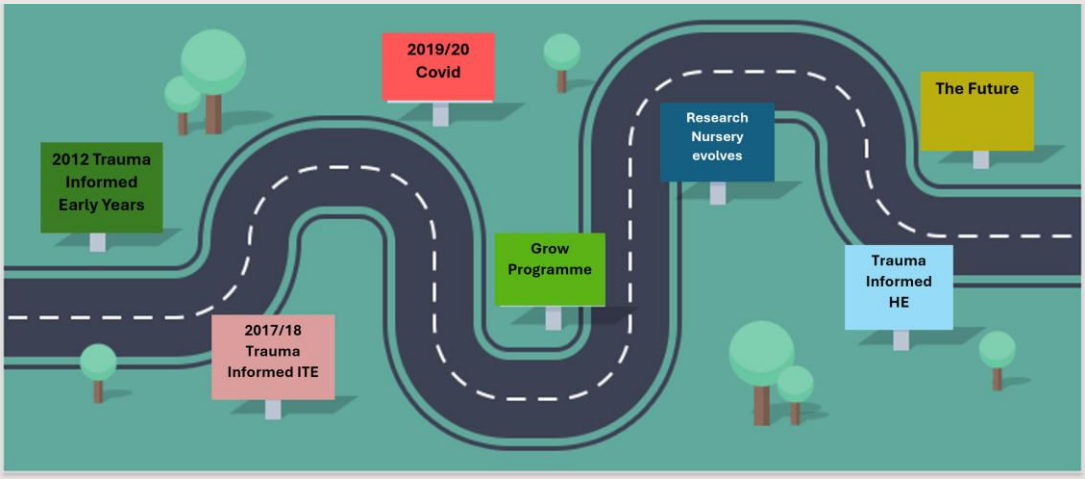
Roadmap



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Winning hearts and minds: Moving beyond awareness

- Initial Pilot and Early Expansion - Sheffield Institute of Education
- Experience of managing a community nursery
- Context in 2017



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SCHOOLS & COMMUNITIES
Registered Trauma Informed Practitioner


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Exclusive: 'How our behaviour crackdown will work'


SOUTH TYNESIDE BRIEFING
Record number of pupils suspended or excluded from borough schools

University of Chester

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Trauma Informed Practice in Initial Teacher Education



2017 – Trauma Informed Schools UK Diploma



2019/2020 - All age phases have mandatory training . Approx 1,000 new teachers

Ofsted raising standards improving lives

Recognised and praised by Ofsted inspectors in 2024.

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SOUTH YORKSHIRE SCHOOLS TRAUMA INFORMED PRACTICE EVENT

You are invited to join us to learn more about the range and impact of ACE aware and Trauma Informed practice in schools in South Yorkshire.

Wednesday
11th March 2020

08:45 Coffee & Networking
09:15-12.45 Event

Hallam View

Floor 6, Owen Building
Sheffield Hallam Universit
S1 1WB

Reserve your place at this event by visiting:
tinyurl.com/TISevent



Recent research has helped us to understand the potential long-term impacts of Adverse Childhood Experiences (ACEs) and trauma. Whilst many people who have had these experiences are resilient and will go on to have happy and fulfilled lives it is also crucial that we recognise that living through traumatic events and adverse childhood experiences increases the risk of inequalities, disadvantage and poorer health and

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SOUTH YORKSHIRE

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Hallam View

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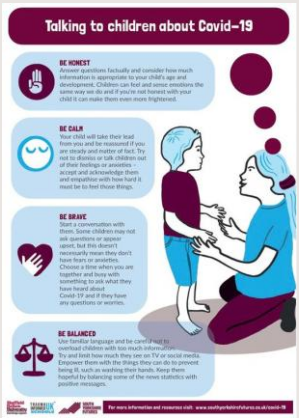
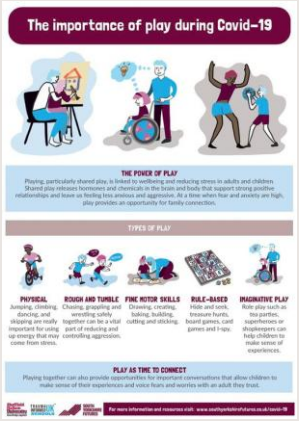
The Pandemic and immediate response







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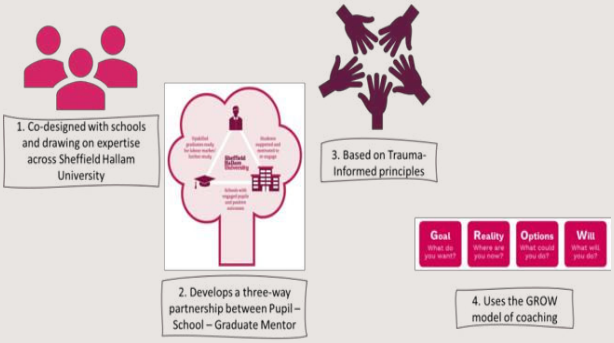
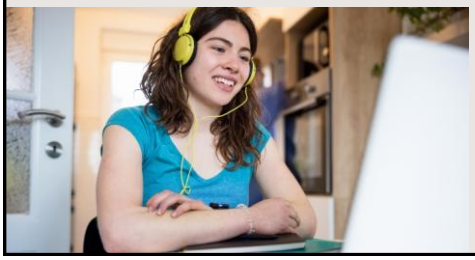
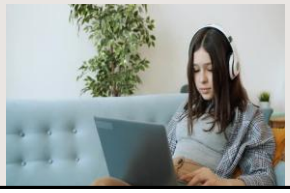
Grow: How it grew from Awareness to Action

- The Problem
- The Challenge
- The Solution







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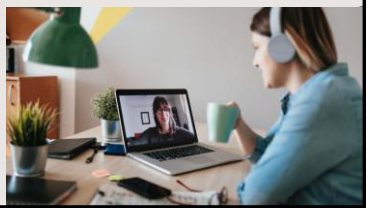
To transforming lives

"Your session on Tuesday really opened my eyes to my own experience with dealing with trauma at school. By the time I was sitting A-Levels I completely gave up on education. Seeing the sessions this week really highlighted to me what happened and kind of put closure on it." **Grow Mentor**

"I didn't need to explain everything all over again every time and I felt like I had someone who could empathise with me " **Pupil**

I think just having that person to talk to. You don't get the teacher to talk to as often.' **Pupil**



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Early Years Community Research Centre (EYCRC)

- Background
- The Community
- The Pandemic
- Meadows Nursery
- 'Changing Lives Through Relationships







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What came next at Meadows...

I would like to tell others to go out there try something new, taking that first step is sometimes hard but reaching your potential is so much more rewarding. If you want to feel seen, heard, valued then come to a place like Meadows nursery. They don't just believe in the children they believe in the parents too. That is powerful. (Parent)

The testimony of parents is that this is their family, and it has helped them to grow and realise achievements they did not think possible. As a result, intergenerational transfer of trauma is interrupted. Children and their families are offered a corrective emotional experience with emotionally available adults who support them to see themselves differently, develop trust and see the world as a place of opportunity. It is truly life changing.
(Trauma Informed Schools UK Accreditation Report December 2024

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And now at Meadows...







BE SEEN, BE HEARD, BE VALUED

YOU, ME & US



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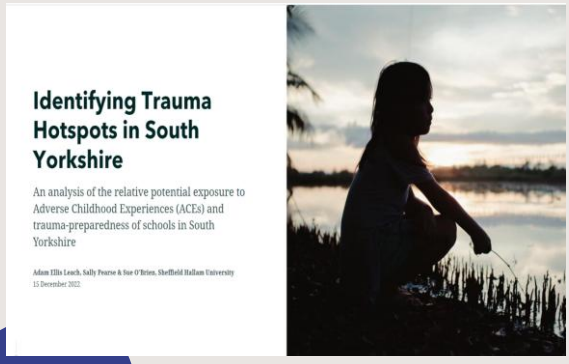
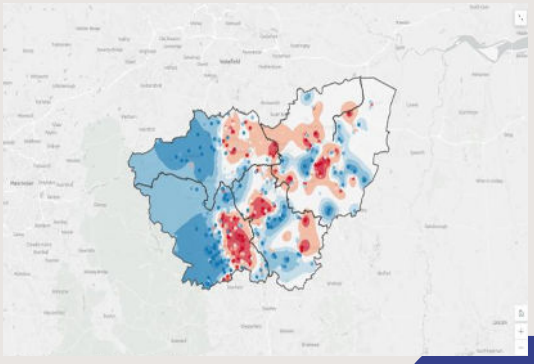
The trauma heatmap





Master: Identifying Trauma Hotspots in South Yorkshire

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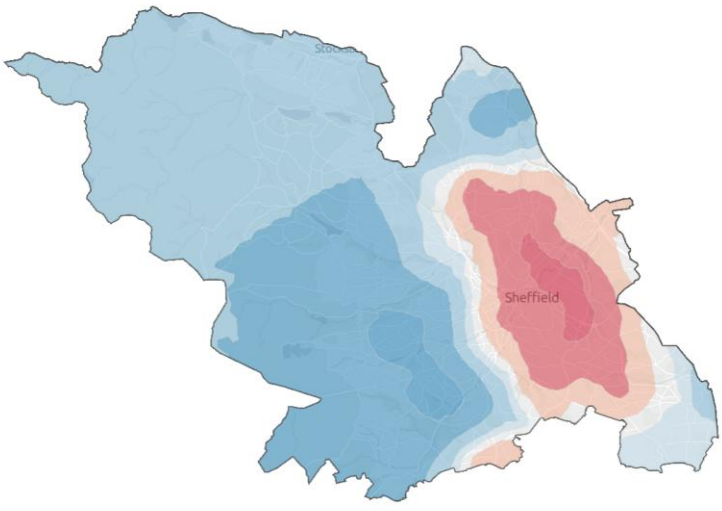
Master: Identifying Trauma Hotspots in South Yorkshire

There is a much clearer east - west divide present in Sheffield than other parts of South Yorkshire.



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The evolution of Trauma-Informed Practice

What Changed?

- Teacher education programmes redesigned
- Trauma-informed approaches embedded across disciplines
- Community-based family support developed
- National higher education network established
- New postgraduate programmes created
- Schools entering partnership with a stronger baseline understanding of trauma-informed practice

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Thank you

Professor Sue O'Brien

Professor Sally Pearse

University of Chester

Early Years Community Research Centre

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