What to look out for...

At times it can be hard to notice if your child is struggling with their mental health and wellbeing, you might notice some of the following signs, you might see something different, or you might not notice anything at all...

It is important to remember we all act in different ways when we're going through a tough time.

Some of the ways they might act differently...

Seeming distant
Seeming not themselves
Not meeting up with friends
Not wanting to see family
Spending more time alone
Not chatting, smiling or laughing as much
Being less confident
Losing interest in activities
Crying, shouting or feeling angry
Feeling nervous or 'on edge' a lot of the time
Seeming restless or indecisive
Smoking, drinking, or using drugs when they didn't
before

Some of the physical changes you might notice...

Taking less pride in their own appearance

Eating too much/too little

Having panic attacks
Finding it hard to concentrate
Looking tired
Having trouble sleeping or sleeping more than usual
Repetitive behaviour, like tapping or checking things
Having thoughts about suicide or self-harming
Actual self-harm, for example, cutting their skin or
taking an overdose

Remember, everyone feels low, angry or anxious at times, but you know your child better than anyone so, if you are worried and you think there has been a significant, lasting change in their behaviour, it is important to have a conversation and help them to seek the right support. Please see the other information tabs.

