



**The Rt Hon Baroness Jacqui Smith
Minister for Skills**

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The Lord Watson
House of Lords
London
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Wednesday 15th October 2025

Dear Lord Watson,

I'd like to thank you for the interesting debate of new clause 479 of the Children's Wellbeing and Schools Bill, which seeks to provide statutory guidance for all relevant schools on whole school approaches to mental health and wellbeing.

I committed to write to the house on the topic of the senior mental health lead training grant.

Training grants for mental health leads in education settings were available from October 2021 until December 2024. 81% of eligible state schools and colleges claimed a grant and accessed quality-assured training, giving them skills and knowledge to embed a whole school or college approach to mental health and wellbeing.

Demand for training grants fell in the final months of the scheme and education staff surveys identified a different need, for practical resources. There are no current plans to re-open the scheme providing mental health lead training grants. The department now provides a mental health lead resource hub, a targeted support toolkit for trained senior mental health leads schools and colleges.

Thank you for taking the time to engage on these matters. I hope these further details have been useful and I will place a copy in the House libraries.

Yours sincerely,

**The Rt Hon Baroness Jacqui Smith
Minister for Skills**