

Every Child Matters

The aim of the **Every Child Matters** (ECM) agenda that now lies at the heart of all services for children is to ensure that all children and young people reach their full potential through improved outcomes in five key areas. These outcomes are further broken down into 25 aims, as shown below. Support staff in all schools have a crucial role to play in delivering these **ECM aims**.

Be healthy

- Physically healthy
- Mentally and emotionally healthy
- Sexually healthy
- Healthy lifestyles
- Choose not to take illegal drugs

Stay safe

- Safe from maltreatment, neglect, violence and sexual exploitation
- Safe from accidental injury and death
- Safe from bullying and discrimination
- Safe from crime and anti-social behaviour in and out of school
- Have security, stability and be cared for

Enjoy & achieve

- Ready for school
- Attend and enjoy school
- Achieve stretching national educational standards at primary school
- Achieve personal and social development and enjoy recreation
- Achieve stretching national educational standards at secondary school

Make a positive contribution

- Engage in decision making and support the community and environment
- Engage in law-abiding and positive behaviour in and out of school
- Develop positive relationships and choose not to bully or discriminate
- Develop self-confidence and successfully deal with significant life changes and challenges
- Develop enterprising behaviour

Achieve economic well-being

- Engage in further education, employment or training on leaving school
- Ready for employment
- Live in decent homes and sustainable communities
- Access to transport and material goods
- Live in households free from low income



Reducing stress

There has been concern recently about teachers' stress levels. With their wider workloads, teaching assistants and other members of support staff may also be feeling the strain.

A little stress is good for us because it makes us get out of bed in the morning, reach deadlines, finish what we have started and generally **work effectively**. However, if it starts overwhelming us, and the pressures of work start taking control of our lives, then it will begin to affect our health and **how we function** at work.

For the full article, see the NAPTA Web site at www.napta.org.uk.

Take advantage of the Web site

As NAPTA members, you can use the special members' section of the NAPTA Web site at www.napta.org.uk.

Why not log on and download some attractive weekly planners?



If you need a replacement membership card, email info@napta.org.uk.

Coming soon

There will soon be a new **vocational qualification** (VQ) aimed at recognising the skills of all support staff in schools.

See the NAPTA Web site at www.napta.org.uk for more details.

Having your say

NAPTA is always keen to receive feedback from readers. If you would like to submit an article for **NAPTA News** or have a question you would like NAPTA's experts to answer, you can do so via NAPTA's Web site at www.napta.org.uk.

About NAPTA

NAPTA was formed to provide **specialist services and support** to all members of support staff in schools. NAPTA is not a union. Its interest lies in helping individuals develop as professionals and working with schools and local authorities to ensure that support staff are utilised effectively.

A great project for spring and summer

In April, NAPTA will be sending to all member schools a complete **pack of materials** for support staff. The materials will help you to work with pupils to experience the excitement of **growing sunflowers**, brighten up the school grounds and help deliver key elements of the science curriculum.

Grow your own sunflowers!

