



Mental Health Services

Madison County Schools supports the emotional well-being of students by providing mental health services to students who are referred by their school counselor. Mental health therapists are trained to provide short-term support to students with symptoms of mood disorders, anxiety, depression, or behavioral changes. They can assist students by providing the tools to better manage and express emotions, and they are trained to provide support for students experiencing stressful life changes such as divorce or death in the family.

Wondering what signs or symptoms to look for in a student who would be a candidate to benefit from mental health services? Be on the lookout:

- Behavioral changes
- Hygiene changes
- Withdrawal
- Loss of interest
- Expressing emotions not congruent with the situation
- Severe irritation
- Anger
- Anxiety
- Depression
- Life changes

If you think your student would benefit from mental health services, the first contact is your school counselor. The school counselor will meet with the student and determine the best course of action. As partners with parents and guardians, our MCS counselors and mental health therapists take seriously the important role of family in the mental health of children. If a school counselor feels that a student would benefit from referral to mental health services, parents or guardians will be contacted. Students can meet with an MCS mental health therapist at school during the school day. Scheduling is made to avoid absences from academic classes to the extent possible.

The Madison County Schools mental health services team includes three dedicated district-employed mental health therapists. MCS is proud to partner with Canopy Children's Solution through a grant program to provide an additional mental health therapist to serve our district. The mental health therapist provided by Canopy will serve the students of Old Town Middle School and Ridgeland High School in this pilot partnership.

Questions? Reach out to your child's school counselor for more information.

Need assistance with an immediate crisis? Call or text 988 to reach the National Mental Health Hotline.