



Academic Resilience Approach - Briefing Paper

The development of an online Academic Resilience Approach is a national project supported by BOND (Better Outcomes New Delivery). BOND is a consortium of organisations funded by the Department for Education and led by YoungMinds, to improve early intervention mental health support and services in schools. The project is led by consortium member Lisa Williams Consulting in partnership with Professor Angie Hart and colleagues from the University of Brighton, 'boingboing' social enterprise and Young Minds.

What is Academic Resilience?

Academic resilience means students achieving good educational outcomes despite adversity. For schools, promoting it involves strategic planning and detailed practice involving the whole school community to help vulnerable young people do better than their circumstances might have predicted.

What students are we talking about?

All students will have to cope with some adversity. That is part of life. However students who experience multiple disadvantages (e.g. poor home life, poverty, domestic violence, young carers, those being bullied, refugee and asylum seekers, young people with special educational or complex needs), face greater challenges in school than most students. This website supports school to 'step up' the things they do to have greater impact on the achievements of their most vulnerable pupils. All students will benefit from a school wide approach to increasing academic resilience – but vulnerable students will benefit the most

What will the approach do?

The approach offers a pick and mix of activities from whole school assessment; individual risk identification and planning tools; resources for use in class; links and information for every member of the school community, and guidance on commissioning of services. We will show you how to encourage a culture across the whole school which promotes academic resilience at every opportunity.

The tools developed as part of this approach will be linked to the research evidence base around academic attainment and resilience, and draw on good practice examples from schools to demonstrate how to put the principles of promoting academic resilience into practice.

Who is the approach for?

A Consortium led by
YOUNGMINDS
Funded by
Department for
Education



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Any adult member of the school community; from Head, governors and parents through to SENCOs, pastoral and inclusion leads; subject teachers to technicians, caretakers and catering staff. Some students, for example those on school councils, might also find it useful.

What will the approach help schools to understand and do?

The online tool will provide information, ideas and guidance based on research in response to the following questions;

1. What is academic resilience?
2. How can a resilience approach help us improve results across school and particularly for more vulnerable pupils?
3. Which pupils are at risk and who can resilience promotion help?
4. What can schools practically do to develop academic resilience with pupils?
5. How can I find quality services which help schools and what can they offer?
6. What can schools do with parents to promote academic resilience?

Will there be examples from real schools?

The online tools will have examples from schools embedded within them both in film and written case study format. We will use these examples to highlight good ideas and demonstrate approaches schools can take to promote the academic resilience of their pupils. The short films will encourage schools to step up their commitment to vulnerable pupils. It will inspire them with real examples of how this can be done through specific, tried, tested and recommended approaches.

How can the approach be accessed?

The tools will be available on the [YoungMinds website](#). The website receives around 830,000 unique visitors a year (professionals, parents and young people) and the tools will be promoted to schools through marketing, training and conference events. BOND partner agencies will also have access to the materials and links to the website via their own websites.