

Dear Students

I have been asked by the EA to advise you of a new service which has been rolled out for all students aged 11 to 19 in the post primary sector.

The **'Text-a-Nurse'** service is part of a wider initiative involving the Department of Education and other Government departments and agencies who are developing a Framework for Children & Young People's Emotional Health and Wellbeing in Education.



The initiative is designed to enable students the facility to make contact with a medical professional in a confidential capacity about a range of health issues without a face to face appointment. This approach affords the young person the chance to ask questions which some might feel more comfortable doing over the phone.

A qualified school nurse will respond to the young people's messages using the secure ChatHealth web platform. ChatHealth is a new award winning service which may well transform the way young people communicate with health professionals.

Text-a –Nurse is manned by a team of school nurses between the hours of 9am -5pm Monday to Friday (excluding Bank Holidays). They will respond to all messages within 24 hours Monday – Friday.

- **Belfast Trust** **Text –A-Nurse** **Tel: 07507 328290**
- **South Eastern Trust** **Text –A-Nurse** **Tel: 07507 327263**

Warm regards,

Ms Grace McCarthy - Vice-Principal (Pastoral)