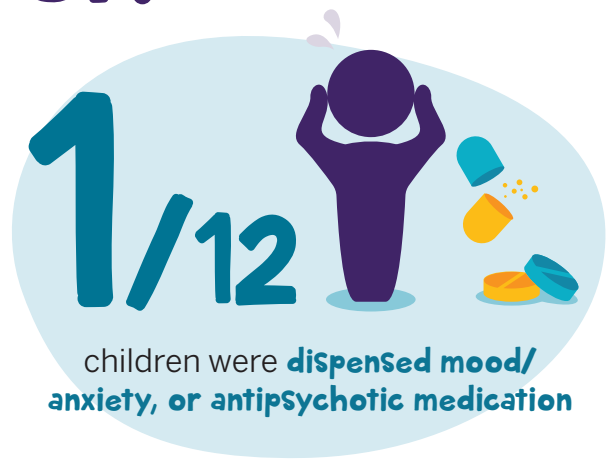


Why does mental health matter at school?

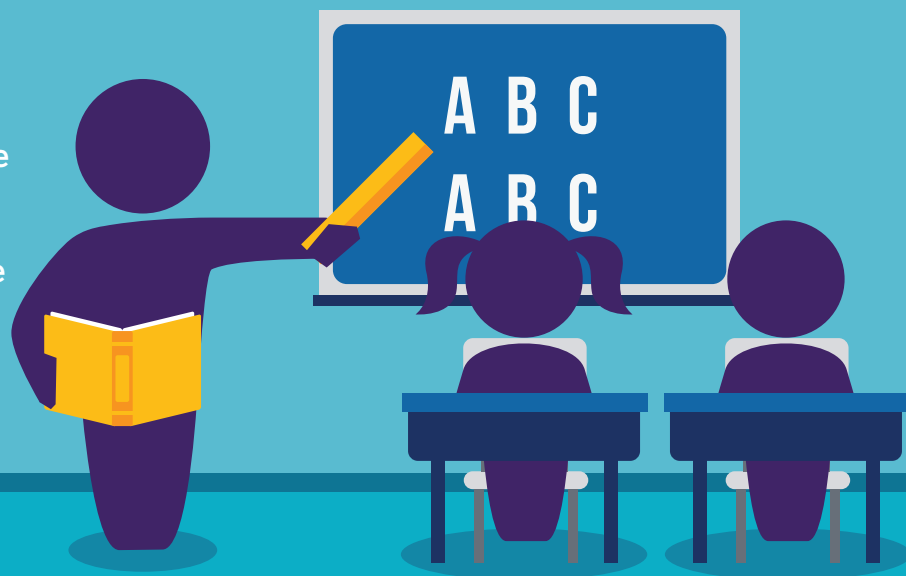


Child poverty

is linked to less access to print and lagging reading skills. As early as grade 3, reading skills are linked to successful high school graduation.

Positive adult role model

A healthy attachment to a positive adult role model has been identified as a protective factor against the development of mental health concerns. Teachers play a critical role in children's social-emotional development. A healthy relationship with a caring teacher is also critical for academic success.



Teachers and schools can act as protective factors:



Reduced substance use



Reduction in school remedial services



Lower likelihood of criminal activity



Higher income as an adult