In April 2024, our service was requested to visit a Year 10 male pupil who had stopped attending school the previous October due to mental health struggles.

Following a Wellbeing Response Visit the officer requested that school refer for an open Wellbeing case.

The initial goal was to support the family to engage with the correct services who could support with the mental health struggles. From there work could begin to providing the right form of education that would meet the family’s needs.

The officer worked with the school and family to understand the health complexities including a Becks assessment. The pupil would not engage with services, even those attending the home, due to his ongoing struggles. Work was undertaken in keeping the family informed of Educational Psychology involvement and liaising between services. By October 2024, it was clear from relevant professional assessments that the pupil was too unwell to attend school. The officer supported gathering evidence for an Education Other than at School application.

As a result of the continued work with multiple agencies, school and family, the pupil was awarded home tutoring. The mother reported when they met with home tutors it gave them both hope for the future. Prior to our involvement, the pupil had not attended school for 7 months. Attendance with tutors is currently 69% with absences related to authorised health needs. This places the pupil well to progress in his subjects at a crucial time for education and he is set to undertake GCSE examinations next year.

Parental feedback:

*Our involvement with X from start to end has been a consistent positive experience, she has been a huge help within school meetings, talking things through, following up on anything we've spoken about or explaining anything I've been unsure of or our next steps x*