

## Mental Health Benefits of attending the HAPpy Programme

### Huma Abbasi – DBC Place Officer for Sport and Physical Activity

Our core values and behaviours





### Understanding Contributing Factors and How HAPpy Camps Can Help

- Importance of Mental Health in HAPpy
- Why understanding children and young people's mental health is crucial for providers





### **Common Mental Health Issues at Home**

#### **Stress & Anxiety:**



Often stem from financial hardship, family conflict, unstable housing, and food insecurity.

#### **Depression:**

Children may feel isolated, sad, and have low self-esteem, especially in neglectful or chaotic home environments.

#### Trauma:

Some children experience emotional or physical abuse, leading to trauma responses like oversensitivity, withdrawal, or aggression.







### **Mental Health Issues at School**

**Bullying:** 



#### **Academic Pressure:**



#### **Peer Relationships:**





### **Contributing Factors to Mental Health Challenges**

#### Poverty:



#### Nutrition:



#### **Parental Stress:**



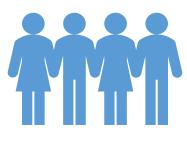
Screen Time & Social Media:





### **Possible Impacts on Mental Health** Before HAPpy:





Social Isolation 50

Physical Inactivity

Mental Health Struggles





# Impact of HAPpy on Mental Health

### **During/After HAPpy**

- Improved Nutrition
- Enhanced Social Skills
- Increased Physical Activity
- Boosted Mental Well-being
- Learning and Skill Development







## How HAPpy Helps Children with Special Educational Needs and Disabilities (SEND)



- Specialist Support
- Accessible Environments
- Nutritional Education
- Social Interaction
- Respite for Families



## **Role of Camp Providers**

Empathy and Understanding

• Providing Stability

• Fostering Positive Relationships







## **Conclusion & Key Takeaways**

- The mental health challenges HAPpy children/young people may face at home and school.
- How poverty, stress, and peer relationships contribute to mental health struggles.
- How HAPpy provides a supportive environment that can help ease these issues.
- Final Thought: "Camp providers are more than just activity leaders—they are key contributors to children's well-being."



### **Questions and Discussion**

#### Our core values and behaviours

