

TIPS FOR FAMILIES

Place2Be's

CHILDREN'S
MENTAL HEALTH
WEEK

① Encourage journalling

Just like Riley, encourage your older children and young people to express their emotions and thoughts through journalling. It can be less confronting than speaking out loud and is a helpful way to process what is going on.

② Make space for reflection

When children and young people reflect on their different emotions, it can help them better understand themselves and what they need.

Go for a walk, drive, or try some mindful colouring or baking together.

③ Be visual

Use imagery, such as emojis or flashcards to help children and young people recognise and label their feelings.

④ Practice mindfulness

Try mindful activities, and quiet family time, to enjoy being in the present moment. This can help children and young people be aware of their thoughts and emotions and learn a useful new coping technique.

⑤ Communicate

Feedback is crucial for helping us see our blind spots and gain greater insight. Children and young people are no different. Creating safe and supportive ways to share your own experience with your child can help them understand themselves and their impact on the world around them.



If you're a parent or teacher, you'll find loads of useful advice to help you support the brilliant young people in your lives – from FAQs to downloadable packs. [Here4You.co.uk](https://www.here4you.co.uk)



TOP TIPS FOR CHILDREN AND YOUNG PEOPLE

Place
2Be



① Be curious about your emotions

You're fascinating! Take notice of your emotions and thoughts, either as they come up or maybe later on that day. You can use techniques like meditation or journalling to help you make sense of what is going on inside of you.

② What matters most

Our values are often what make us tick, so reflect on what really matters to you. Are you ambitious, funny, kind, creative? Similar to Riley, our beliefs can evolve as we grow older and have new life experiences. If you're feeling lost or confused, take a moment to think about what drives you. It may help you understand yourself better and make choices that feel right for you.

③ Feedback, feedback, feedback

Other people we know can often see things about us that we miss. Sometimes these can be areas for us to develop and sometimes they can be our strengths. Either way it's great to have a friend, family member or teacher that can help us with our blind spots

④ Get creative expressing yourself

Creativity can often help us express emotions and show parts of ourselves that are sometimes hidden. If you are feeling blue like Sadness, painting might help. If you are feeling bright and happy like Joy, song and dance could be the creative outlet for you. Whether it's painting, music, dance, drama or something else, find your creative outlet and share it with others.

If you're a young person struggling with any kind of mental health worries, reach out in a way that suits you. From speaking to someone or grabbing some info, to webchat or text, there's people ready and waiting to help [Here4You.co.uk](https://www.here4you.co.uk)

