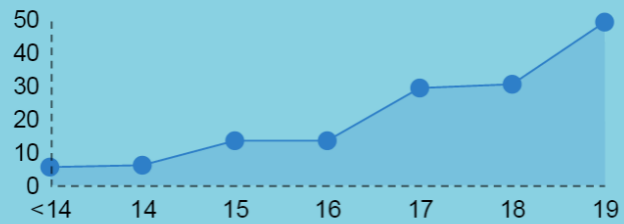


# Suicide by children and young people in England

National Confidential Inquiry into Suicide and Homicide by People with Mental Illness  
May 2016

## Age and gender

The number of suicides is low, but rises in the late teens



The number of suicides by males is higher than by females

■ Females(30%) ■ Males(70%)

## Reported antecedents of young person suicide



22%

Bullying



13%

Bereaved by suicide



15%

Abuse and/or neglect

Many factors may contribute to suicide in young people - it is rarely caused by one thing

## Academic pressures

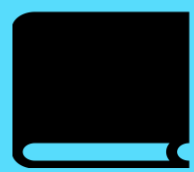


53% of young people were in education at the time of death



27%

Experiencing academic pressures



15%

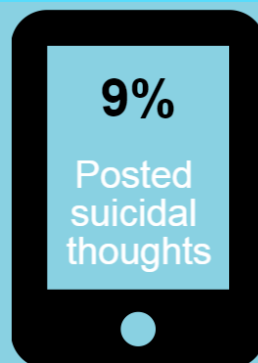
Exams or exam results at time of death

## Suicide-related internet use



12%

Searched for information on suicide method



9%

Posted suicidal thoughts



6%

Online bullying

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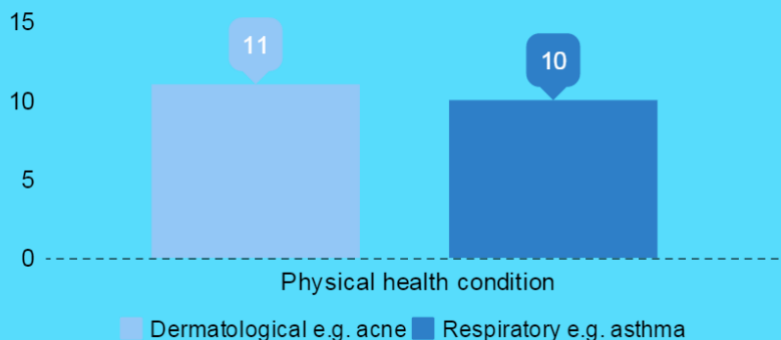
May 2016

## Physical health conditions



Over a third of young people sought medical help for a physical health condition

### Most common physical health conditions



## Suicide risk

Some expressed risk directly, but many did not

**54%**

Previous self-harm

**27%**

Expressed thoughts of suicide in the past week

## Contact with services



**41%**

Mental health



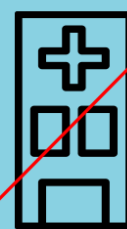
**30%**

Youth justice/police



**18%**

Social care



43% had no known contact with any services

## Model of early adversity



## 'Final straw' event

Early life experiences can make young people vulnerable

e.g. family mental illness, abuse

As they get older other issues may arise

e.g. alcohol use, depression

One event may act as a 'final straw'

e.g. relationship breakup, exam pressures