The contribution of the HBSC Survey in Scotland

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Overview

• The importance of young people’s health and therefore the importance of understanding it

• The contribution the HBSC survey makes to this understanding and therefore the value of the HBSC survey in Scotland

• The future of HBSC in Scotland within current work to review the C&YPs survey landscape in Scotland
The importance of youth health

- Young people’s health matters – it has a wide ranging influence

- Many individual and societal changes happen during adolescence that influence health.

- These have a significant influence on health trajectories

- The case for collecting comprehensive, high quality data on youth health, and the factors influencing it is therefore strong.
The contribution of the HBSC survey

• It’s made, and continues to make, a significant contribution to our understanding of youth health and its profile

• It’s contribution is unique:
  1. standardised national data, allowing inspection of health and social trends over a long period of time.
  2. standardised cross-national data, enabling the examination of young people’s health from a comparative perspective.

• It provides us with a broad perspective of relevant issues - some of which are unique - within the context of social determinants

• It’s findings can be used nationally and locally in a variety of ways
Reviewing the survey landscape - HBSC?

- Growing concern about research fatigue in schools, lower response rates, duplication of effort and costs across the system.
- Consensus on:
  - a census approach, on a biennial cycle, collecting data structured around the SHANARRI outcomes, at key stages, with a mix of core and modular questionnaire design
  - continuation of the international HBSC study