

**ADDITIONAL MENTAL HEALTH FUNDING TO
SUPPORT THE RETURN TO SCHOOL**

The province will provide more than \$1 million dollars in additional funding for student mental health supports and work with school divisions to ensure student needs are met and encouraging increased attendance for those students who may have been less engaged with the school system.

These supports are in addition to the \$2.5 million dollars announced last year that was invested to protect Manitoba's students against COVID-19.

Additional investments part of the \$2.5 million included:

- \$207,000 to expand Project 11, a classroom and virtual program developed by the True North Youth Foundation, to additional grades;
- \$672,000 for a provincial pilot of Enhanced School-Based Mental Health and Addictions Supports, which integrates and enhances access to mental-health and addiction supports for students in grades 6 to 12;
- \$50,000 for Kids Help Phone virtual programming;
- \$400,000 for clinical and student services supports through the Remote Learning Support Centre, which also offered services and supports to students and families through their team of service providers and resources available at www.mbremotelearning.ca;
- \$60,000 for Families and Schools Together to build resilient families with young, school-aged children;
- \$595,000 on mental-health supports for the Community Schools Program; and
- \$580,000 to expand Thrival Kits, developed by the Manitoba Advocate for Children and Youth and Canadian Mental Health Association, which incorporate evidence-based mental-health practices such as mindfulness meditation, personal reflection, stress reduction and coping strategies, as well as interpersonal skills development. Available in English and French, the kits are introduced to children as part of activities throughout the school year.