

## Why focus on children's mental health at this time?

Research emerging from over this period has reported increases in worrying, stress, loneliness and low mood. In many ways

unprecedented times. Young people have

them, they have experienced signif cant

contact, and many have missed signif cant

Life feels very dif erent from last year, and

and protecting those most vulnerable to the coronavirus, those of us who live and

have been only too aware of the huge impact

the least af ected by the virus in terms of symptom severity, it's clear that the threat

measures have had a signif cant impact on children and young people's mental milestones such as transitions from primary to secondary school, leaving school or joining university. Wany have experienced financial uncertainty, either through economic pressures facing their family or

The disproportionate impact of the

been widely reported, with a recent report from Public Health England

and mortality for Black and Asian people. It has become clear that the spread of the virus and the impact of the associated lockdown measures have amplified existing inequalities. In particular, parents and carers from minority ethnic groups are both more likely to be key workers, and more likely to work in shut-down sectors. They

exposure to the virus while also being more likely to experience loss of household income. Both of these

an adverse psychological impact for

## Some positives?oung people of color

4. Have open conversations