Nottinghamshire Healthcare is delivering the new Integrated Healthy Child and Public Health Nursing Programme for 0 - 19 year olds contract from 1 April 2017.

This contract brings together care provided by health visitors, school nurses, the Family Nurse Partnership Programme (for first time teenage mums) and the National Childhood Measurement Programme.

The new integrated service offer is called the ‘Healthy Families Programme’. Central to this is the establishment of 20 new locally based ‘Healthy Family Teams’ across the County providing integrated health services for children, young people and their families.

Section 1: Introduction

New approaches to supporting children, young people and their families

By working with Family Action (a national voluntary agency) and North Notts College of Further Education under the umbrella of Nottinghamshire Children and Families Partnership (NCPP), we will be implementing new ways of supporting parents who have children on the concerning behaviours pathway through a volunteer befriending service. We will also be trialling a social platform to enable young people to have access to the information they require to transition into adulthood.

Each team will work within a geographically defined area

These areas will be based around local populations with the same boundaries as our children’s centres and include the relevant families of schools.

Understanding and addressing local health needs

The teams will work closely with local children’s centres and other children and young people agencies in understanding and addressing local public health and community development priorities. Activities in the local areas may include, for example, the provision of ‘Super Health Days’ in schools and colleges with health promotion events on a range of specific themes.

Section 3: Skill mix teams

Each Healthy Family Team will contain a mix of public health practitioners and support staff with a range of skills who are able to work together to address the public health needs, and provide appropriate support to the 0 - 19 years population in their local area.

New roles for staff

The Healthy Family Teams will be led by specialist public health practitioners (SPHPs). The SPHPs will lead the assessment and planning of delivery of care for the local population within each area and delegate some of the work to the rest of the team.

The other staff in the Healthy Family Teams will be public health practitioners, assistant public health practitioners, community health assistants, screening support workers and administrators. As part of an integrated multidisciplinary team (MDT) each member will work with families and children in different ways depending on the type of support required.

Section 4: Links and access to services

The teams will be based at local health centres and where feasible in local children’s centres. This will allow for the teams to be aligned with named links to local primary care, education and social care services and allow a seamless interface with these and other child and family services.

Access to teams will be via a Healthy Family Team telephone number which will be staffed within the local area.

Sessions will be made available during school holidays at local venues to enable school aged young people to access support if needed.

Universal service offer

The national Healthy Child Programme (HCP) will continue to be delivered.

The specialist public health practitioner will undertake the birth review and 6-8 week review and maintains overall responsibility for the continued assessment and monitoring of health needs.

Other routine HCP contacts will be made by the most appropriate member of the integrated multidisciplinary team.

Section 5: Targeted work

Where additional interventions or targeted reviews are indicated, appropriate support ranging from brief interventions or time limited evidence based programmes of work will be agreed with service users and delivered by the most appropriate member of the team.

Signposting, referral, joint working with local children’s centres and other key partner agencies will continue to be provided through a wide range of support to a family in line with the local authority’s Family Services offer and Pathway to Provision.

Local teams may include specific clinical, link or liaison roles where specific local needs/populations indicate this is required (e.g. intensive interventions to young mothers, travellers, ethnic minority groups with known health issues).

Safeguarding remains a core element

Safeguarding remains a core element of the programme and is integral to all levels of provision. Families, where safeguarding is a concern, will continue to be a priority for the service.

Section 6: Key benefits of the new model

- Integrates key services within the 0 - 19 public health portfolio and in partnership with children’s centre provision
- Supports provision of a seamless service across the 0 - 19 years age range and families
- Stops duplication through shared systems and processes
- More consistent delivery through reviewed care pathways, standard delivery frameworks and integrated MDT approach
- Ensures a clear understanding of roles and responsibilities across our portfolio of services
- Improves alignment of services with key local partners such as local authority provision, through streamlined access to services
- Provides an approach that better facilitates early intervention to prevent escalation of issues and therefore prevents crises from occurring

Section 7: Further details

Contact your district’s service manager for further details:

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