



# North Yorkshire Healthy Child Programme

Public consultation on proposed service changes from April 2021

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# The Healthy Child Programme

The Healthy Child Programme is a national health promotion and early support programme for children, young people and their families. It aims to bring together health, education and other partners to deliver an effective programme of services and support. There is a mandatory requirement to provide some elements of the programme.

Since the transfer of Public Health services to councils in April 2013, the HCP has been commissioned by local government, under the direction of the Director of Public Health. In North Yorkshire Harrogate and District NHS Foundation Trust (HDFT) has provided services for 0-5 and 5-19.



# The Healthy Child Programme

The Healthy Child Programme is only one part of the jigsaw: it is part of a comprehensive network of children and young people's services

North Yorkshire's CYPS services are rated as Outstanding: Healthy Child sits alongside early help, social work services, SEND services and much more

# The Current Service

0-5 YEARS HEALTH VISITING	5-19 YEARS SCHOOL NURSING
<p data-bbox="168 425 749 468"><b>5 MANDATED CONTACTS</b></p> <ul data-bbox="168 486 1116 776" style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Antenatal contact 28 -32 weeks gestation</li><li>• Primary Contact 10 -14 days</li><li>• 6-8 week Contact</li><li>• One year development review contact</li><li>• 2 – 2 ½ year development review contact</li></ul> <p data-bbox="168 853 1187 1022">A range of prevention and early intervention and support given to families including safeguarding and supporting vulnerability</p>	<p data-bbox="1274 425 1735 468"><b>5 HEALTH REVIEWS</b></p> <ul data-bbox="1274 486 2346 1082" style="list-style-type: none"><li>• 4-5 year old health needs assessment</li><li>• 10-11 year-old health needs assessment</li><li>• Screening service</li><li>• National Child Measurement Programme which measures the height and weight of children and brief advice given to families if child is overweight or obese (statutory requirement)</li><li>• Vision and hearing screening at school entry</li><li>• Support for emotional wellbeing and resilience and in reducing risk-taking in young people</li></ul>

# Our commitments

In putting these proposals forward, we are making clear pledges:

All children and young people will receive universal and targeted services to enable them to have the best start in life, through our work in children's 'early help' and social care, schools and community support for children and young people with additional needs. 'Early help' provides support when need is identified at any point in a child's life. It is not a specific service but a joined up approach across all service providers to work with children, young people and families to prevent the need for statutory/costly interventions.

We will prioritise our public health grant-funded Healthy Child Programme towards children under five, to support their early development and to ensure that they are ready to learn.

All new-born babies and their parent(s)/carer(s) will have a face-to-face visit from a qualified Health Visitor. The integrated 2-2.5 year health and wellbeing review will also be face-to-face, led by a qualified health visitor.



# Our commitments

We will continue to provide targeted support for 5-19 year olds, through a range of different programmes and services.

Our Healthy Child 0-19 services will combine a mix of face-to-face, online, individual and group work services, tailored to the personal circumstances of each family.

We will continue to work with children and families, local service providers in the public and private sector, and voluntary and community groups to ensure that the right support is provided by the right person and at the right time.

# Funding Context

- Healthy Child Programme is funded through the North Yorkshire Public Health Grant. This is a defined pot of funding from central government for the delivery of Public Health services.
- The Public Health Grant was subject to 8% national reductions between the financial years 2017/18 and 2019/20, with an inflationary increase only for the financial year 2020-21. The level of future Public Health Grants is announced annually and cannot be predicted. As a result NYCC is required to make spending reductions across a range of Public Health services.
- Healthy Child services account for approximately a third of North Yorkshire's Public Health spending and they **will continue to be at a similar share, currently 34% of Public Health Grant**, despite the reductions in national Grant
- All Public Health programmes are being reviewed and the Healthy Child 0-19 programme will need to transform the service and make savings of £657k by 2024.

# Proposed Changes 0-5

## 0-5 Health Visiting

- All children and families will continue to receive 5 contacts from Health Visitors through a risk assessed and blended approach of physical and virtual support rather than the current model of all visits being face to face
- The blended approach of physical and virtual support is being proposed because of the national reduction in Public Health Grant in North Yorkshire and the HCP budget, leading to a reduction in overall staffing levels. However, much of this reduction has already occurred due to a vacancy freeze in 2020
- Safeguarding support will continue to be provided
- The service will continue to offer targeted support where required
- A focus on best start in life in particular on infant feeding support, family diet and nutrition, to help reduce the proportion of children and young people becoming overweight or obese

# Proposed Changes 0-5

## Mitigations

All families will receive a multi-factoral risk assessment based on the following. Any family deemed to be at risk will only receive physical visits.

- First time parents, Single parents, Unsupported young parent, Previous or current safeguarding, Previous or current drug/alcohol misuse, perinatal and Parental mental ill health, Parental special educational needs, Previous child with SEND, History of domestic abuse

Risk assessments will be continually updated with information from contacts and other interactions. Where a change in risk is identified the level of contact a family receives will be enhanced.

HCP is part of a wider group of services and interventions for families and children, all of which work together to support and protect children and families.

# Proposed Changes 5-19

## 5-19 School Nursing

- Safeguarding support will continue to be provided
- Support for emotional wellbeing and resilience and in reducing risk taking in young people will be enhanced

Alternative arrangements will be made for:

- Hearing and vision screening at school entry
- Drop-ins in schools – to offer advice and support on health and wellbeing issues (e.g. children with asthma and sexual health support)
- Level 1 continence support (advice and support about daytime and night time wetting) for school age children
- Sexual health services
- Sign-off of school health care plans
- School entry and Year 6 health questionnaires

# Proposed Changes 5-19

## Mitigations

We are working with local partners (Council Children and Young People's Early Help Service, Health, Voluntary and Community Organisations and Local Communities) together to develop systems and processes that will enable families and young people to access the support they need.

The proposed 10-year partnership for programme is an example of integrated working across health and children and young people services. This will be a different way for the Council and partners to work together to plan and provide collective solutions to local problems and issues.

# Service Timeline

Public Consultation on service changes: 26/10/2020 – 04/01/2020

Final report on proposals and consultation to NYCC Executive: January 2021

Proposed service start date: 1st April 2021

# Consultation

Public Consultation Period: 26<sup>th</sup> October 2020 – 4th January 2021

Responses can be submitted via:

This event

Email: [healthychild@northyorks.gov.uk](mailto:healthychild@northyorks.gov.uk)

Online survey: [www.northyorks.gov.uk/healthychild](http://www.northyorks.gov.uk/healthychild)

Physical copies of the consultation pack and survey as well as alternative language versions can be requested by calling 01609 780780



# Consultation Questions

The consultation document sets out the following questions that we are seeking views on:

1. In the context of a national reduction in North Yorkshire's Public Health Grant, do you support the proposals to prioritise children under 5, and their families, so that they have the best start in life?
2. In the context of a national reduction in North Yorkshire's Public Health Grant, do you support the proposals for 5-19 year olds which are focussed on:
  - supporting vulnerable young people
  - developing a service for emotional resilience and wellbeing.

How would you see that support being provided to children and young people?

3. We have learned from how we had to adapt during the Covid-19 pandemic, and in future, we want to deliver some of the Healthy Child programme online and via the telephone.

How do you think digital and telephone services could help support families in North Yorkshire?

