

# Children in Care Health Team

IHA / RHA Assessment Process.

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# Meet the Managers

- ▶ Beaulah Chizimba - Designated Nurse Children in Care
- ▶ Nic Smith-Howell - Associate Director of Integrated Community Paediatric Services
- ▶ Jackie Strahm Service Manager for NNSC & CIC - April 2018

# The Role of the Health Team:

- ▶ National Institute for Clinical Excellence (NICE 2013) has 8 quality standards for the health and wellbeing of looked after children and young people  
<https://www.nice.org.uk/guidance/qs31> .
- ▶ Across these standards health care has a duty to ensure that all aspects of the children's and young people's health needs are met by working in collaboration with partner agencies.
- ▶ An Assessment of the child's health needs must happen within 28 days of coming into care and reviewed at least once every six months before a child's fifth birthday and at least once every 12 months after the child's fifth birthday (DFE and DOH 2015).

# The Initial Health Assessment Process:

- ▶ A child/young person will be offered an initial health assessment by a paediatrician or a GP within 28 days of coming into care.
- ▶ Physical and emotional health will be assessed and any unmet health needs will be addressed and referrals made to other appropriate services
- ▶ A health passport will be given to the child/young person during this appointment.
- ▶ The recommendations and plan will be distributed to the carer, allocated social worker, IRO and posted to the GP.

# The Review Health Assessment:

- ▶ The CiC health assessment is a key opportunity to consider information from **all** health professionals.
- ▶ All relevant information about the child's physical health and emotional wellbeing is reviewed.
- ▶ It results in an outcome focussed health care plan, which is informed by all health providers
- ▶ Any unmet physical, mental, emotional or sexual health needs identified will result in referrals on to appropriate services.

## Continued;

- ▶ Prior to the Health Assessment taking place the health practitioner will contact the child/young person's GP, school and any other Health Professionals involved in their care for any new information since the last Health Assessment.
- ▶ The previous Health Plan will be reviewed to ensure that all issues have been addressed or whether there are any still health needs outstanding. Should any issues remain outstanding these will be incorporated into the new Health Plan.
- ▶ If any health issues are proving too difficult to address this will be discussed with the SW and a way forward established.

## Continued:

- ▶ Results of SDQs will be utilised as part of the assessment process
- ▶ Blue Health Record / Passport will be updated as part of the assessment
- ▶ For Care leavers (17 years) a Health Summary will be provided to support the transition into adult service
- ▶ The recommendations and plan will be distributed to the carer, allocated social worker, IRO and posted to the GP.

# The Health Record (Blue Book / Passport)





# Health Passport

- ▶ The purpose of the book is to improve the health outcomes of the child
- ▶ The book is held by the young person / carer and accompanies the child / young person throughout all changes in placement and to all health related appointments
- ▶ By recording up to date health information provides a continuous health profile.
- ▶ All contacts with health professionals need to be entered into the book
- ▶ The information within the record will be available for carers / Social Workers and other health professionals

## How to use:

- ▶ The booklet is for recording the health history and up to date health of the child / young person in care
- ▶ It is held by the carer
- ▶ It is not designed to replace the red book - utilised when the red book is unavailable
- ▶ Its use currently is initiated at the time of the Initial health assessment
- ▶ In a change of placement it is important that the Social worker ensures that details about medication, allergies and health conditions are documented within the record.
- ▶ It is the Foster Carers responsibility to ensure that the booklet is kept up to date.
- ▶ The Carer should record all appointments in the front appointment list

## Continued

- ▶ The book should accompany the child if there is a change of placement
- ▶ The IHA Summary and subsequent RHA's will be documented within the book
- ▶ Anyone can write in the book - the young person or carer can record the details and outcomes of any appointments
- ▶ There is a separate section for young people to record visits / appointments to sexual health services should they chose to do so
- ▶ The booklet should be returned to the child's Social Worker File should the child return home. The health information should then be readily available should the child return to care
- ▶ If the child is adopted an agreement should be made locally as to where the booklet will be kept and whether birth parents details should be removed

# Informing the Child/YP's Care Plan

As an integral part of care planning, the child's social worker must make arrangements to ensure that every child in care has:

- their physical, emotional and mental health needs assessed
- a health plan describing how those identified needs will be addressed to improve health outcomes
- their health plan reviewed in line with care planning requirements set out in Regulations or at other times if the child's health needs change.

*"Promoting the health and Wellbeing of Looked After Children 2015"*

# The Way Forward

The background features abstract, overlapping geometric shapes in various shades of blue, ranging from light sky blue to deep navy blue. The shapes are primarily triangles and polygons, creating a dynamic, layered effect. The overall composition is clean and modern, with the text centered on a white background.

# Our Wish List

- ▶ We now request any new information for a CiC child from their GP 2 months prior to their review health assessment. This can be tasked to us or emailed to [cic.healthhub@suffolk.gcsx.gov.uk](mailto:cic.healthhub@suffolk.gcsx.gov.uk)
- ▶ We would like to know if they have been seen and why, referred to any other partner agencies, any current medication, any allergies and any concerns or outstanding actions.
- ▶ We do not want a photocopy of their SystemOne record posted to us.
- ▶ We would like to be able to email or task via SystemOne the health recommendations and plans to the registered GP
- ▶ We would like GPs to complete the health passport if brought when seeing a CiC.
- ▶ We would like 18-25 year olds who have previously been a CiC to be supported to get health summary from yourselves when they request one.