

The School Nursing Service

Hertfordshire Community Trust - Our core values
Care - We put patients at the heart of everything we do
Respect - We treat people with dignity and respect
Quality - We strive for excellence and effectiveness at all times
Confidence - We do what we say we will do
Improve - We will improve through continuous learning and innovation

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What is the approach?

The Hertfordshire School Nursing Service:

- Is underpinned by philosophies that are based upon the nature of the child or young person and their status and rights within both the family and community.
- Believes that the primary focus is to assist the child or young person and their family to be healthy, stay safe, enjoy and achieve, make a positive contribution and achieve economic wellbeing.
- Achieves this through the delivery of The Healthy Child Programme 5-19 years which focuses on early intervention and prevention and offers research based guidance on development reviews, immunisations, screenings, and healthy choices. The service is based upon: Getting it right for children, young people and families which states that school nurses have an important public health leadership role in the school and wider community, for example contributing to health needs assessments, designing services to reach young people wherever they are, providing services in community environments and working with young people and school staff to promote health and wellbeing within the school setting. School nurses work with others to increase community participation in promoting and protecting health, building local capacity to improve health outcomes.

What are the aims?

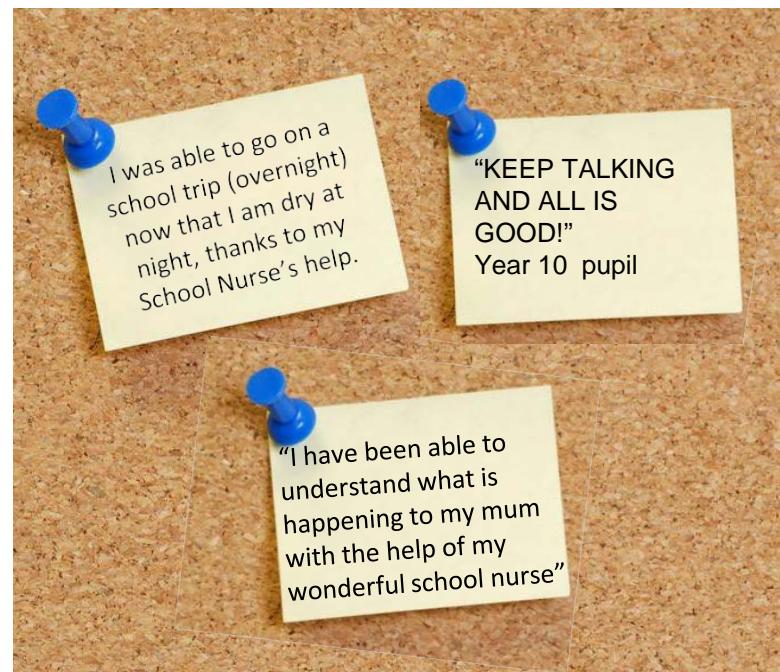
- To lead and contribute to improving the outcomes for children and young people in a partnership approach.
- To work with a number of partners including health and social care teams, teachers and youth workers and charities to deliver the evidence based public health interventions as outlined in the Healthy Child Programme (5-19), and using the core principles of Making Every Contact Count for intelligent, opportunistic intervention.
- To be approachable and non-judgmental and in a position to be able to support young people.

What are the benefits?

- School nurses provide universal services for all children and young people as set out in the Healthy Child Programme, working with their own team and others including health visitors, general practitioners and schools.
- School nurses offer 'early help' (for example through care packages for children with additional health needs, for emotional and mental health problems and sexual health advice) by providing care and/or by referral or signposting to other services. Early help can prevent problems developing or worsening.
- School nurses are part of teams providing ongoing additional services for vulnerable children, young people and families requiring longer term support for a range of special needs such as disadvantaged children, young people and families or those with a disability, those with mental health or substance misuse problems and risk taking behaviours.
- School nursing services also form part of the high intensity multi-agency services for children, young people and families where there are child protection or safeguarding concerns.
- School nurses provide a service at four levels with safeguarding being a core part of each level right through from universal services education about protective behaviours, to working as part of a team providing high intensity services where these are needed. For children, young people and families this means a service offer at four levels.

What are our user experiences?

“ The school nursing team were very encouraging and informative, they also spoke the whole way through the injection to take your mind off of things. ”



What are the impacts?

- Health protection through the delivery of population based immunisation programmes.
- Health promotion through the National Childhood Measurement programme and the referral of Children & Young People to evidence based programmes for weight management.
- School Nurses are trusted professionals who support Children & Young People across a wide range of issues such as school attendance where health (physical or psychological) issues are getting in the way of access to education.
- School Nurses talk to Children and Young people about their health and development supporting the prevention of dental decay, understanding puberty, sexual health and contraception relationships, bed wetting, the promotion of emotional health and well-being including referrals to Tier 2 CAMHS and specialist services.