



Community Children and Young People's Health Services update

July 2021

As we continue to restore our community children and young people's health services we wanted to share the different ways we are working to help keep everyone safe. Supporting the health and wellbeing needs of children and young people across Shropshire, Telford and Wrekin as we recover from the pandemic restrictions is a priority. Our aim is to do this in a safe, effective and responsive way recognising the unique needs of each child, young person or family.

We are continuing to offer a wide range of services but some of these may be a little different in order to keep everyone safe. We continue to provide face to face appointments where safe to do so through home and clinic visits alongside telephone or virtual outpatient appointments.

How are we going to help keep everyone safe?

Following NHS guidance all staff working within 2 metres of another adult, child or young person continue to wear surgical face masks. This means that when we visit schools or preschools we will be wearing face masks. This could also include gloves and aprons if we are going to be in close contact ensuring we change this personal protective equipment (PPE) when we see different children and young people.

We have a special update about children's speech and language therapy services which you can read more about below



Our Services

Immunisation and Vaccination Service

We are busy delivering our school based immunisation programmes that includes the Human Papillomavirus Vaccine (HPV) programme to boys and girls in Year 8, the Diphtheria, Tetanus and Poliomyelitis (School Leaver Booster) and the Adolescent Meningitis ACWY vaccines to Year 9 and 10 students.

We are currently preparing for the flu programme which we expect to offer all school aged children and young people over Autumn/Winter. Further details will follow as soon as we know more.

If you have any questions please contact the team on **01743 730028**
shropcom.immunisationteam@nhs.net

Community Children's Nursing Team and Paediatric Diabetes Nursing Team

The Community Children's Nursing Team and Paediatric Diabetes Nursing Team continue to provide nursing care and support to Children and Young People aged 0 to 18/19 years. If the Child or Young Person needs ongoing care in the school we will work with you to ensure there is an individualised health care plan in place and that staff have received appropriate training so that the child or young person can continue to safely attend the school setting.

If you wish to talk to the Community Children's Nursing Team please contact them on the CCN Team on **01743 450855**
shropcom.ccnadmin@nhs.net

If you wish to talk to the Paediatric Diabetes Nursing Team please contact them on **01743 450855** or **shropcom.pdsn@nhs.net**

Children's Community Audiology

The service continues to provide face to face appointments for children. Parents and carers will be asked screening questions before attending and clinics have reduced the number of appointments in each session to allow cleaning in between appointments.

We are working our way through the children on waiting list and are sending letters to parents/carers requesting them to contact us to book an appointment in due course.

If you have any questions please contact the Audiology Service on **01743 450831**



Children's Therapies (Occupational Therapy, Physiotherapy and Speech and Language Therapy)

Where this is clinically appropriate assessment and intervention is being offered remotely by telephone, using our remote appointment platform Attend Anywhere or via MS teams for all therapies. More assessments and interventions are being effectively delivered face to face. Appointments are being offered in all our clinical sites where this is safe to do. This includes paired and group interventions where we are carrying out very careful risk assessments.

School and early years settings visits are continuing. The service offer will depend on whether the child or young person is attending a setting, the risk assessment of that setting and the risk assessment made by the therapist or assistant. This means the offer for an individual child or young person will be kept under review.

Most training workshops for parents and setting staff are being offered remotely via MS teams. We are continuing to work hard to develop safe training options for parents or carers who do not have access to IT.

For all therapy services we are developing our social media presence to ensure everyone has access to relevant information and support. You can find us at

- [Shropcom Children's Physiotherapy - Home | Facebook](#)
- [Shropcom Children's Occupational Therapy - Home | Facebook](#)
- [Shropcom Children's Speech and Language Service - Home | Facebook](#)

Important Information about Children's Speech and Language Therapy

We are continuing to experience a high demand for speech and language therapy. This means that the waiting times for first assessment and intervention for speech language and communication needs (SLCN) are much longer than we would like.

Over the summer we will be reviewing all the referrals again. If the child or young person's need is clear from the information you have shared with us, parents and setting staff will be offered the most appropriate information, advice, resources or interventions. We will prioritise offering an assessment to children and families who have either been waiting the longest time or whose referral suggests the child or young person is most likely to need one of our specific interventions.

Please see the first draft of our Children's SLT Handbook on our website for more information about these interventions. Looking to the future we will continue to support Parents, Early Years and School Practitioners to provide further screening and early intervention for SLCN before making a referral.



Children's Therapies (Occupational Therapy, Physiotherapy and Speech and Language Therapy) continued

We are working with education settings and parent representatives to agree which speech, language and communication screening and early intervention tools to choose to support children and young people with speech, language and communication needs in early years settings and schools. If you would like to get involved with this service improvement project, please call the number below.

For school colleagues, as of 1 September 2020, we have only been accepting electronic referrals from schools for Occupational Therapy and Speech and Language Therapy to the following email address: **shropcom.childtherapyreferrals@nhs.net**

Please check the website for the most recent version of the forms.

Please see the information leaflet on our website pages about setting up a secure email system where you can also find the OT and SLT referral forms.

www.shropscommunityhealth.nhs.uk

Please note that Physiotherapy and CDC services both require a medical referral.

If you have any questions please contact the Children's Therapies Teams on:
01743 4500800 (Shropshire) or
01952 567351 (Telford) or for OT you can also email **Shropcom.OT4kids@nhs.net**

Child Development Centres

The team are using information gathering by telephone and questionnaires, remote video conferencing and face-to-face sessions. We are carrying out assessments in the CDC playrooms with one child and carer attending at a time; using observation mirrors to enable the multi-disciplinary element to be maintained. Some of the face-to-face sessions may be observed by the team via web cam.

Training packages have been converted to enable remote delivery. The Intensive Interaction training workshops are now live, in addition to Visuals and Makaton training. In Telford where Early Bird and Early Bird plus, for children have been commissioned for parents where children have been given a diagnosis or there is a strong likelihood of Autistic Spectrum Disorder, are being offered remotely. This service is also now being offered for a small number of children in Shropshire.

If you have any questions please contact the Child Development Centre on either:
01743 730012 (Shropshire) or
01952 567300 (Telford)



Community Dental Teams

We have now restored all core dental services including domiciliary care; and have been open at all sites for the provision of urgent and routine dental care.

The Special Care Dentistry and Paediatric dental service are seeing their regular patients and treating new patients referred to the service, based on urgency of need. Most patients are attending face to face appointments, but where appropriate we are conducting remote education for those that find this more beneficial.

We are working hard with our partners at our local hospitals to (PRH, RSH, RJAH) to ensure that there is adequate access to General Anaesthetics for dental treatment, for those patients that require it.

Our Oral Health Improvement Team, has restarted the Care to Smile Program and is aiming to implement some exciting and impactful programs for children and young people in the very near future.

We remain open for Urgent Dental Care 7 days a week; for patients in Shropshire County and at weekends for both Shropshire County and Telford and Wrekin.

If you have any questions please contact us on:

01743 341898 Shrewsbury or

01691 663684 Oswestry

Community Paediatric Service

The Community Paediatricians Team continues to provide face to face, telephone and Attend Anywhere (virtual outpatients) appointments depending upon the nature of the appointment and priority.

If you have any questions please contact the team on

01743 450800 (Shropshire) or

01952 567300 (Telford & Wrekin)



0-19 Service – Leading on the Healthy Child Programme

The 0 -19 service includes Health Visitors, School Nurses, Nursery Nurses, Support Workers and Family Nurse Practitioners working across Shropshire, Telford and Dudley.

Whilst we aim to deliver the full Healthy Child Programme we are prioritising face to face appointments for the new birth visit and the 6-8 week review. We are also progressing on increasing the number of one and two year reviews. The National Childhood Measurement Programme has re started for just a small group of children.

Safeguarding and Child Protection underpins all work with babies, children and young people.

We continue to use a variety of client based platforms underpinned by a robust risk assessment to determine the appropriate type of contact such as face to face contact in the home or clinic, a telephone contact, use of texting Chat Health services or the use of a virtual contact.

We continue to provide support for parents with babies at our health clinics, virtual/face to face breast feeding support, support for children & young people in need of additional support, emotional health and well- being support from the transition into parenthood, the transition into starting school and the transition into adulthood as young people leave school. The school nurse provides help and information for the development of healthy relationships including sexual health advice to support the holistic health needs of young people. We also continue to provide support for our vulnerable babies, children and young people through our Family Nurse Partnership nursing team who deliver a licensed evidence based programme of early intervention from 0 -2 years.

Telford 0-19 Healthy Child Programme **0333 358 3328**

Shropshire 0 – 25 Public Health Nursing Service **0333 358 3654**

The Wheelchair and Posture Service

Our service aims to meet the mobility needs of people of all ages with restricted abilities within Shropshire and Telford & Wrekin. This is achieved through skilled, clinical assessment resulting in the prescription of mobility equipment with associated seating and postural products; ensuring an equitable, appropriate service to all users.

We are continuing to see children, young people and adults on a face to face basis whilst adhering to NHS guidance to keep everyone safe.

If you have any questions please contact the team on:
01743 444051 or email **Shropcom.swaps@nhs.net**



The Paediatric Psychology Service

The Paediatric Psychology Service has seen a rise in demand across the multi disciplinary teams it provides input into, as the impact of the pandemic on health and wellbeing continues to be revealed. We are seeing such understandable reactions to extraordinary circumstances.

As a service, alongside the necessary precautions, we have resumed much of our face-to-face work now, whilst also reviewing what we have learned from our new ways of working and what we want to hold onto that has worked well. We plan to incorporate the views of children and young people in our review and to offer more flexibility in how we offer appointments.

As a service, we continue to have a strong focus on supervision and staff support, given how important this is in promoting staff wellbeing and contributing to positive outcomes for our patients.

We recognise the ongoing significant impact of Covid-19 and the associated uncertainty on the health and wellbeing of children, young people and their families and we are in the process of uploading new resources on this topic, which can be found using the following link:

www.shropscommunityhealth.nhs.uk/coronavirus-resources-for-children-and-families

To increase our social media presence and make paediatric psychology more accessible we have recently set up a [Facebook page – Shropshire Paediatric Psychology Service.](#)

You can contact our service at: shropcom.ppsadmin@nhs.net 01743 730138

The Looked After Children (LAC) Health Team

We are currently completing Review Health Assessments virtually and offering all care leavers face to face appointments for their Health Assessments and Leaving Care Health Summaries (Health Passports).

We have received positive feedback from children and young people in care who have engaged in their health assessments virtually. The Looked after Children Health Team continue to arrange, co-ordinate and undertake Statutory Health Assessments for children cared for by Shropshire and Telford & Wrekin Local Authorities in accordance with the Department of Health statutory guidance.

Follow the link below to gain an insight into the impact of children in care during Covid-19.

<https://corambaaf.org.uk/coronavirus/family-placement/impact-coronavirus-children-and-young-people-who-were-or-are-care>

The Looked After Children (LAC) Health Team are based at Coral House in Shrewsbury and can be contacted via the team email: shropcom.shropshirelachealthteam@nhs.net or by telephone **01743 450 823**.



Children's Continence

Bedwetting support

Imagine waking up every morning with wet pyjamas and wet sheets, having to strip and make your bed every day, trying to hide your secret from friends, and feeling like you are the only person who wets the bed. There are up to 500,000 children and teenagers in the UK who regularly feel like this.

Children who suffer from bedwetting often feel a sense of shame, frequently isolating themselves and missing out on social activities. Their self-esteem, emotional well-being and school and social performance can be affected, but the impact of bedwetting is often underestimated and trivialised.

Bedwetting is nobody's fault. In most cases it is caused by over-production of urine at night or reduced capacity of the bladder to hold urine. The lack of understanding of the condition means its causes are not always recognised and parents do not always seek help with their child's bedwetting.

Nearly half of parents and carers with children aged five years or older who wet the bed do not seek help, believing the child will outgrow the problem. However, bedwetting will not necessarily go away by itself, and safe and effective treatments are available.

Did you know that here at Shropshire Community we have an Enuresis service for 5-19 year olds, run by Lead Nurse Angela Scull. For more information and support please contact **Shropcom.continenceforpaediatrics@nhs.net**

Constipation Service

The Children's Constipation Services sees infants and children from six months up to their 18th birthday who have constipation as their primary diagnosis and also have a GP based in Telford & Wrekin and have been on medication for the treatment of constipation for more than 6 months. For further information please contact them on the CCN Team on **01743 450855** **shropcom.ccnadmin@nhs.net**

We would like to take this opportunity to thank all families, education staff and other professionals for their ongoing support and flexibility during these unprecedented times, and we look forward to continuing working with you to support children and their families across Shropshire, Telford & Wrekin.

