

## Advice available

The School Nursing Team offers the following:

- Health Promotion & Education
- Health screening & assessment
- Healthy eating & weight management
- Drop in sessions at school for parents & young people
- Immunisations
- Parenting advice
- Bed-wetting (enuresis) clinics
- Signposting for Sexual Health and SmokeStop support
- Referrals to other services
- Training for school staff
- Emotional support
- In some Dorset schools a Sexual Health Service is available

## Useful websites

Healthy Lifestyles/Eating -  
[www.nhs.uk/change4life](http://www.nhs.uk/change4life)

Mental Health & Wellbeing advice and support  
for children and young people –  
[www.wheresyourheadat.co.uk](http://www.wheresyourheadat.co.uk)

Helping children with bedwetting daytime  
wetting or soiling problems -  
[www.eric.org.uk](http://www.eric.org.uk)

Dorset HealthCare University NHS Foundation  
Trust- [www.dorsethealthcare.nhs.uk](http://www.dorsethealthcare.nhs.uk)

## Contact details

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If we are not available when you call, please leave a message. Please leave your name and daytime contact number. We will return your call as soon as possible.

If you have any suggestions or comments about the School Nursing Service, details are available on our website [www.dorsethealthcare.nhs.uk](http://www.dorsethealthcare.nhs.uk) Or contact your local School Nurse, details can be obtained through your child's school.

The information in this leaflet is available in additional languages and alternative formats. Please contact the Trust for further details.

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Leaflet ref: BC/BN/SN1/16

### Dorset HealthCare University NHS Foundation Trust

Sentinel House  
4-6 Nuffield Road  
Poole  
Dorset  
BH17 0RB  
Tel: 01202 277000

[dorsethealthcare.nhs.uk](http://dorsethealthcare.nhs.uk)

# School Nursing Service



## Introducing your School Nursing Team

Your School Nursing Team consists of a School Nursing Lead, Specialist Public Health Practitioners, School Health Staff Nurses and Nursery Nurses. They are all trained to work with children, families and school staff for the benefit of each child's health and development. Nursery Nurses usually work with children up to the age of 8 years.

Each member of the team has links with many other professionals who also work with children including Community Paediatricians, Health Visitors and Speech and Language Therapists. The School Nursing Team visits your child's school and several other schools in the area. The aim is to provide all members of the school community with a high standard of service, offering help and advice whenever it is needed.

We hope to be approachable and easily accessible in order to meet the needs of all of the children, their families and the school.

**Please find contact details on the back of this leaflet.**

## Role of the School Nursing Team

All members of the School Nursing Team have a public health role in working with school aged children and their families. This means that we aim to prevent disease and promote health and wellbeing. We do this by encouraging healthier lifestyles, offering immunisations and giving information, advice and support to young people and their families. The School Nursing Team is committed to safeguarding all children & young people and adhere to Local Safeguarding Children's Board procedures.

Each school has a named School Nurse who maintains regular contact with their allocated schools.

Before children start school their Health Visitor meets with the School Nursing Team to transfer their care to the School Nursing Service.

## When will you meet us?

During the autumn term a member of the School Nursing Team will visit each reception class to introduce the school nursing team to the children with the help of our teddy bear 'Healthy Ted'. Healthy Ted is used as a health education tool to explain to the children about 'keeping healthy' and the screening checks we offer.

During your child's Reception year, we will send you a letter which contains a health questionnaire to complete on your child's behalf. This will allow us to understand any needs you and your child may have now they have started school. In addition we will offer your child a hearing screening as part of the School Entry Health Check.

Your child will be seen for the hearing check in the company of a classmate. You will be informed of the results of the hearing check in writing.

## The National Child Measurement Programme

The NHS needs to have a good understanding of how children are growing across the country, so that the best possible health services can be provided for them. As a result, a National Child Measurement Programme has been set up to weigh and measure children in England in Reception and Year 6.

You will be sent a letter and information about the programme when your child's class is due to take part. You are given the option of opting out of this programme if you wish.

All parents/carers will be informed of the results of their child's measurements by post within six weeks of the measurement date.

## Drop-ins

A Drop-in is an open access service that the School Nursing Team aims to provide in every school. It provides you with the opportunity to "drop-in" without an appointment, to discuss any aspect of your child's health or well being with a member of the School Nursing Team. The service is confidential. You will find the Drop-In advertised in school newsletters and on posters in school. You can also ask at the school office or contact us direct.

Young people are also invited to attend Drop-Ins at their school to discuss their concerns in a confidential way with their School Nurse. The School Nurse must have parental consent to see Children in Year 6 and below.

## Immunisations in school

Primary school-aged children in eligible years will be offered the flu vaccination (nasal spray vaccination).

Girls in Year 8 will be routinely offered the Human Papillomavirus (HPV) vaccination.

All young people in Year 10 are offered the 3 in 1 teenage booster vaccine: Tetanus, low dose Diphtheria and inactivated Polio together with the Meningitis ACWY vaccine.

## Hearing Tests

If at any time you have concerns regarding your child's hearing please contact your School Nursing Team who can arrange to complete a hearing test in school, and refer on to the Audiology Service if appropriate.