

Nottinghamshire Pathfinder Children's Trust

Making Life Better for Children and Young People with Additional Needs

Issue 4

September 2004

What's New ?

The National Service Framework for Children (NSF) was published this month. The NSF sets standards for the planning, commissioning and delivery of children's services in England and Wales. There are 11 standards.

The first 5 standards will help the NHS and Local Authorities and their partner agencies to achieve high quality service provision for ALL Children and Young People and their parents and carers.

Standards 6-10 address children and young people and their parents and carers who have particular needs. An important message of the NSF is that the first 5 standards apply equally to the children and young people specifically identified in standards 6-10.

Standard 11 recognises the importance to the future well-being of the child and young person of good antenatal care for the mother. *You can find the Standards on page 2 of this newsletter.*

The NSF in Nottinghamshire

For children and young people with additional needs, their parents and carers in Nottinghamshire, a public commitment has already been made to achieve these standards through the work of the Pathfinder Children's Trust. **This commitment was made in the first edition of this newsletter.**

The government recognises that these standards will not be achieved overnight. The government will publish a delivery plan in the autumn giving more guidance.

What's Happening

In the last edition of the newsletter we explained we were going to be working with a small group of children across Nottinghamshire who had complex needs. Members of the Inclusion Support Service and Social Workers are now talking to the parents and carers of these children to gain informed consent for their children and young people to be involved in this work.

The working group has now planned the sessions for frontline staff to attend to learn more about

the plans. Frontline staff who are already working with these children will shortly be receiving a personal invitation to attend one of these sessions.

If you receive an invitation please make every effort to attend.

Wanted: Your views on Key Working -

We know from talking to parents and carers that many families would value a key worker. Through a grant from the Department for Education and Skills we are going to introduce a key worker to families of children 0-3 years in the Mansfield area from early next year.

Have you any experience of providing a key working service?

Do you know of a service where key working has been in place for some time and is working well?

Have you any thoughts on the key elements of a key working service?

Do you know of a service where things did not go well so we can avoid making the same mistakes?

If you have any thoughts on this issue please send them to karen.akers@nottscc.gov.uk

The Working group for the early support programme would welcome your ideas.

Standards 1-5

Promoting Health and Well-being, Identifying Needs and Intervening Early - The health and well being of all children and young people is promoted and delivered through a co-ordinated programme of action, including prevention and early intervention wherever possible, to ensure long term gain led by the NHS in partnership with local authorities.

Supporting Parents and Carers - Parent or carers are enabled to receive the information services and support which will help them to care for their children and equip them with the skills they need to ensure that their children have optimum life chances and are healthy and safe

Child and Young Person and Family Centred Services - Children and young people and families receive high quality services, which are co-ordinated around their individual and family needs and take account of their views.

Growing Up into Adulthood - All young people have access to age appropriate services, which are responsive to their specific needs as they grow into adulthood

Safeguarding and Promoting the Welfare of Children and Young People - All agencies work to prevent children suffering harm and to promote their welfare, provide them with the services they require to address their identified needs and safeguard children who are being or who are likely to be harmed.

For more information on the NSF:

<http://www.dh.gov.uk/PolicyAndGuidance/HealthAndSocialCareTopics/ChildrenServices/fs/en>

The Next Edition of this newsletter will look at the link between the NSF and Every Child Matters and how this is being taken forward in Nottinghamshire.

If you have any views or comments about this newsletter please send to susan.twemlow@nottsc.gov.uk

Standards 6-10

Children and Young People who are Ill - All children and young people who are ill, or thought to be ill or injured will have timely access to appropriate advice and to effective services which address their health, social educational and emotional needs throughout the period of their illness

Children in Hospital - Children and young people receive high quality evidence based hospital care, developed through clinical governance and delivered in appropriate settings.

Disabled Children and Young People and Those with Complex Health Needs - Disabled children and young people who are disabled or who have complex health needs receive co-ordinated high quality child and family-centred services, which are based on assessed needs, which promote social inclusion and where possible which enable them and their families to live ordinary lives.

The Mental Health and Psychological Well-being of Children and Young People - All children and young people from birth to their 18th birthday who have mental health problems and disorders have access to timely integrated high quality multi disciplinary mental health services to ensure effective assessment treatment and support for them and their families.

Medicines Management for Children - Children, young people, their parents and carers and healthcare professionals in all settings make decisions about medicines based on sound information about risk and benefit. They have access to safe and effective medicines that are prescribed on the basis of the best available evidence

Standard 11

Maternity Services - Women have easy access to supportive high quality maternity services designed around their individual needs and those of their babies.