

Southend 0-19 Children's Public Health Service

23rd March 2020

Dear General Practitioners,

Re: Service Delivery Model 0-19 Children's Public Health Services

The safety of children, young people and their families is important to us and therefore we have taken necessary action to minimise risk as a result of the Covid-19 Coronavirus concerns and reviewed our model of delivery of the Healthy Child Programme (HCP). We have been guided in our decision by Public Health England and the current NHS England advice for COVID-19 Prioritisation within Community Health Services.

Southend 0-19 Children's Public Health Services will be limiting and risk assessing the appropriateness of face to face contacts with children, young people and their families.

The Health Visiting Service will currently continue to offer the core HCP contacts but with the exception of the New Birth Visit, these will be delivered via a telephone contact.

Throughout these exceptional times we will continue to provide a service to the most vulnerable children within our care this will include those subject to Child Protection Plans, Children in Need, Looked After and those identified with high levels of vulnerability.

We will continue to offer a duty service; a registered senior nurse will be available to answer any questions, queries or referrals via the telephone. The duty service is for families as well, to access advice, guidance and support in order that they feel supported at this time of uncertainty.

Young people living in Southend can also access ChatHealth, which is a secure and confidential text messaging service for young people aged between 11 – 19 years. It allows young people to easily and anonymously get in touch with a School Nurse for advice and support. 11-19 year olds can text **07520 649895** for advice regarding mental health, sexual health, bullying, drugs, alcohol, self-harm, relationships and smoking as well as queries in relation to Covid-19 or any other health issue.

Normal HCP delivery will be resumed when recovery from this national emergency is underway and/or completed. We would appreciate it if you could cascade this message to your staff and if you could signpost parents and carers to our service if they have any concerns in relation to accessing health support.

Contact Details:

Health Visiting

East Health Team (from Sutton Road to Shoebury)

Tel: 01702 534912

Email: sccg.SouthendEastHealthVisiting@nhs.net

East Central Health Visiting Team (Central Southend)

Tel: 01702 534911

Email: sccg.SouthendEastCentralHealthVisiting@nhs.net

West Central Health Visiting Team (Westcliff area)

Tel: 01702 534913

Email: sccg.SouthendWestCentralHealthVisiting@nhs.net

West Health Visiting Team (Leigh and Eastwood)

Tel: 01702 534914

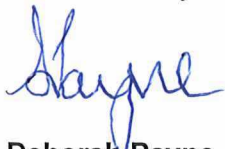
Email: sccg.SouthendWestHealthVisiting@nhs.net

School Nursing:

The service can be accessed via the telephone on 01702 534843 or alternatively via email on sccg.southendpublichealthnurses@nhs.net.

This is being kept under constant review based on the guidance from Public Health England, Department of Health and according to the needs of the local health economy and demands.

Yours faithfully



Deborah Payne

Clinical Lead

Southend 0-19 Children's Public Health Services