



The school nursing service – the story so far

The role of school nurses

School Nurses and their teams deliver the Healthy Child Programme (HCP) for 5-19 year olds and their families.

School Nurses are qualified nurses or midwives with additional specialist training in public health. They work collaboratively with individuals, families, communities and other agencies to identify and address local need. They improve population health through early intervention and changes to lifestyle behaviours, and link families to further services.

School nurses working a variety of settings to lead and deliver public health interventions as year round service. – including; schools, community setting and families homes. School nurses work in close collaboration with teachers, social care and other health partners

Strengthening the service

The School Nurse Development programme set out in **2011** to **improve access to services, improve children young people’s experience, improve health outcomes and contribute to reducing inequalities.**

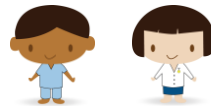
The School nurse vision and model, together with the associated pathways aimed to strengthen local delivery and mobilise the profession.

The school nursing service is described as the **4-V-A-C model** (outlined below). School Nurses and their teams deliver this service and are a vital link between primary care and 5-19.



4 levels of service

Your community
Universal
Universal plus
Universal partnership plus



Visible Accessible Confidential



The role of local authorities

Local authorities have the responsibility for commissioning school nursing to deliver the healthy child programme 5-19, transferred from the NHS to local authorities from 1 April 2013.

The commissioning arrangements provide the opportunity for local authorities to:

- improve short and long term health outcomes
- Meet the needs of local children and families
- Prevent or intervene early to reduce adversity, which can lead to poor educational attainment, higher youth offending rates, adult mental illness, unemployment and difficulties in future parental capacity and have an impact on key development points in a child’s life
- Integrate services for 0-19
- Offer locally sensitive commissioning, working with CCGs for wider services, including co-commissioning with schools
- Support vulnerable children including young carers
- Deliver joined-up services for children aged between 0 and 19
- Reduce health inequalities
- Maximise health and wellbeing

Further resources

- [Department of Health website](#)
- [Local Government Association website](#)
- [Public Health Outcomes Framework](#)
- [NHS Outcomes Framework](#)
- [Our School Nurse, British Youth Council](#)