



Department
of Health

Children, Families and Maternity e-bulletin

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Maternity

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Healthy Child Programme (HCP) and Early Years

Care to Learn childcare funding for teenage parents

Government's *Care to Learn* programme provides funding for childcare costs for young parents continuing or returning to publicly funded education or training courses. The young parent must be under 20 at the start of the course. Evaluation of *Care to Learn* has shown that it is a vital component of helping young parents back into education and training.

This year the *Care to Learn* application process has changed to be on-line. Any new or continuing applications for the 2015-16 academic year have to be completed on-line by the young parent, the education institution where they are studying and the childcare provider.

For information about the application process, short videos and helplines for young parents, education institutions and childcare providers, click [here](#)

Currently teenage mothers make up 21% of all 16-18 year old young women who are not in education, employment or training (NEET). Practitioners working with young parents can play an important role in supporting their return to learning by promoting *Care to Learn* and the new application process.

New guidance to reduce infant mortality and sudden unexpected deaths in infancy in London

Public Health England London has published two new public safety updates on reducing infant mortality and Sudden Unexpected Deaths in Infancy (SUDI).

In London, around 10 babies a week die before their first birthday. The reducing infant mortality in London publication is an evidence-based resource which aims to provide a snapshot of infant mortality and its known risk factors including strategies for prevention. The resource is available [here](#)

SUDI is a leading cause of infant mortality in children aged between 1 month and 1 year. The London SUDI child safety update is an evidence based summary about SUDI and its prevention. The resource is available [here](#)

For further information please contact Dr Marilena Korkodilos [here](#)

Improving school readiness: Creating a better start for London report

Public Health England London has published a new report showing levels of 'school readiness' among London's children, an indicator of how prepared a child is to succeed in school cognitively, socially and emotionally. This report presents:

- the importance of school readiness
- the economic case for investing in school readiness
- a descriptive analysis of school readiness in London
- a summary of the evidence of what works to improve school readiness in order to facilitate improvements in service planning and delivery

The report is available [here](#)

For further information please contact Dr Marilena Korkodilos [here](#)

Integrated review

From September 2015 local areas are expected to offer parents of two year olds attending an early years setting an integrated review of their child's health and developmental progress, bringing together Healthy Child Programme reviews at age 2-2.5 and the Early Years Progress Check. Integration can be through a joint review meeting or through information sharing before and after separate meetings with children and their families. It is up to local areas to choose the approach that best meets local need/circumstance. Support materials for health and early years staff integrating the two reviews are available [here](#)

ASQ-3 and two year health reviews

From April 2015 all health visiting teams are asked to use ASQ-3 questionnaires as part of two year health and development reviews. A factsheet on this is available [here](#)

ASQ-3 British English materials were distributed on CD-ROM to all health visiting providers in England in March 2015. Health visiting teams are encouraged to access the ASQ-3 e-learning (available [here](#)) which provides support on how to use ASQ-3 as part of two year reviews. From September 2015 health visiting teams should record children's ASQ-3 scores at the two year review on their local child health information system. Further guidance on this will be available shortly.

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Child Health

Female Genital Mutilation Public Consultation – your views sought

The Home Office has launched a public consultation seeking views on the draft statutory multi-agency practice guidance on Female Genital Mutilation for frontline professionals in England and Wales. Health professionals are particularly encouraged to respond to ensure that the new guidance captures the full range of evidence, responsibilities, duties and good practice required to support frontline professionals in safeguarding women and girls from FGM. Closing date 30th September for publication this year.

Responses can be submitted online [here](#) or by email here FGMconsultation@homeoffice.gsi.gov.uk or in writing to FGM Consultation, 5th Floor, Fry Building, 2 Marsham Street, London SW1P 4DF

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Vulnerable Children

The Troubled Families Programme: How Was It For You?

The expanded Troubled Families (TF) programme for up to 400,000 families was launched in April. We are looking to refresh the health offer in the light of the launch and to strengthen the public health aspects of the programme. We would like to hear from you about your experience of working with local TF teams.

Please tell us about:

- What is working well?
- How could a refreshed health offer further support this work?
- Are there any barriers to effective delivery?

Do you have examples of good practice that you can share with us?

If so, please email [here](#)

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III Children and Children with Disabilities

Consultation on the National Framework for Children and Young People's Continuing Care

We are seeking views on the revised National Framework for Children and Young People's Continuing Care, which supports Clinical Commissioning Groups (CCGs) and professionals in assessing the care required for children and young people with health needs that are not met by existing or specialised services. The 2010 framework, [here](#), has been revised to take account of changes to commissioning and the new arrangements for children with special educational needs and disability.

The consultation may be accessed [here](#)

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Children and Young People's Mental Health and Emotional Wellbeing

NHS England guidance

On 3 August 2015, NHS England published guidance asking Clinical Commissioning Groups to continue and accelerate intensive work with local partners across the NHS, public health, children's social care, youth justice and education sectors to jointly develop and take forward local plans to transform the local offer to improve children and young people's health and wellbeing, in line with *Future in mind*. Further information can be found [here](#)

Alongside, NHS England and the National Collaborating Centre for mental health published a commissioning guide for the access and waiting time standard for children and young people with an eating disorder. Further information can be found [here](#)

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Conferences and Events

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Sources of Information

Unless otherwise stated, guidance referred to in the bulletin has not been commissioned or endorsed by the Department of Health - it is evidence that organisations and professionals may find helpful in improving practice. The National Institute for Health and Clinical Excellence is the Department's provider of accredited evidence and guidance, which can be found on the Institute's website at www.nice.org.uk

Department of Health Publications

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Orders for publications can still be placed through the online shop - www.orderline.dh.gov.uk - which is available 24 hours a day, 7 days a week, or the Publications order line (0300 123 1002; Minicom 0300 123 1003), which is open from 8am to 6pm, Monday to Friday. You can also check the availability of Department of Health publications, or the status of existing orders, through the online shop. If you do not have access to the Internet, then please call the publications order line.

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Do you have suggestions for improving the content of the bulletin? Please email cfmbulletincontributions@dh.gsi.gov.uk with your suggestions.

Do you have a news item or an event you wish to publicise in the next edition of the e-bulletin? If so, please send your copy to cfmbulletincontributions@dh.gsi.gov.uk by 5pm on 13 April. Your copy should be in the following format:

- 1) Title
- 2) Text up to 100 words with main message to start, followed by relevant key messages
- 3) Web link/s to relevant web page/s - **please ensure the links work**
- 4) Main contact point/source

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