



**Issue 4 January 2020** 

# Newsletter

# Welcome to our January 2020 newsletter:

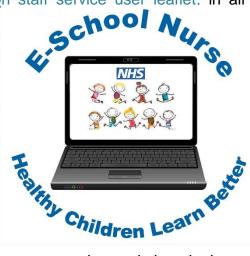
# **Keeping Healthy**

#### **E-School Nurse**

E- School Nurse is part of our NHS digital innovation project that aims to improve access to health care for children and young people aged 5-19 years and their families.

The service is now running across the county with twice weekly clinics offering professional consultation for teachers and professionals working with children. Support includes pastoral issues, low level or persistent health problems, referrals and health education.

Please display the <u>E-School Nurse poster</u> and the <u>education</u> staff service user leaflet, in all your staff areas.

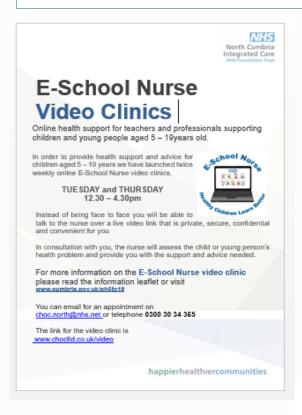


Appointments can be made by telephone or email Monday to Friday 9-5pm.

We are hoping to offer parent/carer consultations very soon!

#### Topics covered in this issue:

E-School Nurse Service
Tips to prevent the spread of illness
Vaccinations and Local services
Head lice &threadworms
Allergies & intolerances
Happy teeth, healthy smiles
Promoting good sleep habits
School Readiness & health surveys
Public Health 5-19 Pathways



# Healthy habits to prevent the spread of illness

While it's not possible to shield children completely from catching a cold or the flu, you can teach them healthy habits to boost their immune systems and decrease their chances of picking up an infection.

#### 1. Promoting handwashing in schools

Almost 22 million school days are missed due to the common cold alone, according to the Centre for Disease Control and Prevention. Hand washing is one of the most effective ways of preventing the spread of common school-age child illnesses such as cold, flu, pinkeye, and more.



e-Bug is a free educational resource for classroom and home use, it makes learning about micro-organisms, the spread, prevention and treatment of infection fun and accessible for all pupils. Throughout these teacher sections you will find:

- detailed lesson plans
- fun student worksheets
- · extension activities
- animations
- activity demonstrations
- PowerPoint presentations to assist with the more difficult aspects of microbiology.

All activities and plans have been designed to complement the National Curriculum. The student pages complement the teacher resources by providing online games, revision pages and lots more to continue the learning experience at home.



Schools should also ensure that education materials are in plentiful supply throughout the school. Posters for pupils on how and why they should wash their hands with soap are crucial to reinforce the message. This provides teachers with well thought-out lesson plans and activities on the topic.



www.e-bug.eu

# **Healthy habits continued**

# 2. Show them how to cough and sneeze properly

Cold and flu viruses can become airborne on droplets of saliva when someone sneezes or coughs. Teach children to cover a sneeze or a cough with a tissue or with the inside of their elbow. A recent study showed that most people cover their sneezes, but do so with their hands (a bad habit that can spread the illness to others).



#### 3. Tell them to avoid touching their eyes

If children touch something that someone with a cold has previously touched and then goes on to touch their own eyes or mouth the cold virus can enter their body. Other infections such as conjunctivitis and impetigo can also be transmitted through touching eyes or mouth after touching an object that has been handled by someone with that infection e.g. a facecloth or towel

# 4. Encourage them not to share utensils and cups with friends

Children naturally love to share, but it's not a good idea to share eating utensils with friends especially during cold and flu season. Viruses and bacteria are easily transmitted through saliva, so this is one type of sharing that you should teach your pupils to avoid.

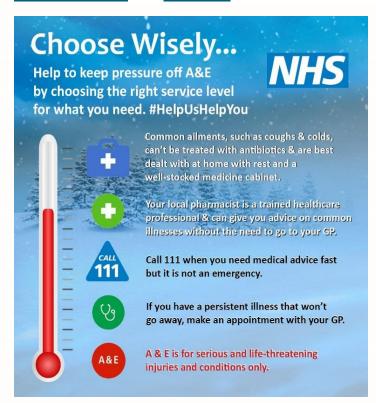


# **Supporting our local services**

Better Care Together have produced some helpful short self-care films covering <u>High temperature</u>

<u>Coughs, colds and breathing Sore throat</u>

<u>Gastroenteritis</u> and <u>Ear ache</u>



A high number of A&E attendances are considered to be inappropriate.

By displaying this poster on your noticeboards or adding to your website and newsletters. It will really contribute to support us in promoting proper use of our emergency services.

It can be found on our website by clicking here

There is also the <u>Health Builders</u> NHS website that gives you advice on how best to treat common childhood illness.

### **Vaccinations**

A massive thank you to all schools for the support you have provided our immunisation teams, in delivering all the different vaccination programmes.

Not only is this a massive undertaking for the immunisation team but also for you. Without your full support we would not achieve our targets and manage to run the sessions so smoothly.

The Flu programme has continued to grow and this year was offered to all children in primary schools. As flu is such a horrible and infectious virus the whole community appreciates the protection we all get from our children being vaccinated.

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#### **Head Lice**

Many parents have simply given up treating their children's hair assuming this is just a consequence of spending lots of time with class mates in school. Finding a simple, safe and effective way to 'beat the bugs' can become frustrating, time consuming and quite a challenge!

But, there are safe and effective ways to beat the bug. School holidays, yes even Christmas, is the perfect time to promote wet combing and for children to return to school lice free!

Both the **Nitty Gritty** and the **Bug Busting** kits are available from your GP, practice nurse and pharmacist and they are approved for NHS prescription and conform completely to the latest NHS guidelines.

**Nitty Gritty** also offers a discount to schools if you would like to bulk buy combs to sell to parents/carers. They also have downloadable leaflets or you can order leaflets for free to give out to parents/carers.



The **Bug Buster** kit is also available on prescription. The charity Community Health Concern (CHC) has a <u>video</u> about wet combing for head lice. A good idea is to add this link to your school newsletter or text it home to parents. CHC also have a helpline for professionals and parents <a href="https://www.chc.org/for-parents/">https://www.chc.org/for-parents/</a>

Threadworms are extremely common in schools and nurseries.

Approximately 40% of primary school age children will get threadworms at some stage and they can easily go on to infect the whole family.

Threadworms do not cause serious damage but they are irritating.

Children and adults can often be irritable and feel hungry as well as uncomfortable and itchy at night.

As a school you may want to follow some of the advice given to parents/carers in our helpful factsheet.

It gives you advice and information regarding threadworms that you can share with parents/carers



## **Allergies and Intolerances**

An allergy or an intolerance is a reaction the body has to a particular food or substance.

These are very common and thought to affect more than 1 in 4 people in the UK at some point in their lives.

They're particularly common in children. Some allergies go away as a child gets older, although many are lifelong.

Having an allergy can be a nuisance and affect your everyday activities, but most allergic reactions are mild and can be largely kept under control.

Severe reactions can occasionally occur, but these are uncommon <a href="https://www.nhs.uk/conditions/allergies/">www.nhs.uk/conditions/allergies/</a>



During a recent E-School Nurse appointment allergies and care plans were discussed. Following the video consultation we put together a helpful <u>questionnaire</u>, for schools to use to find out more about the allergy or intolerance that was being reported.

This is available on our website for you to download and use.

There is also online learning you can access about allergies, and if you need epipen or an asthma update then please contact your local Public Health Nurse.

(our contact details are at the end of the newsletter)

	North Cumbria Integrated Care NHS Foundation Trust
Allergy & intolerance questionnaire  In order to manage your child's allergy/intolerances in schoo please complete the following questions.  Name Date of birth  Parent/guardian  Contact number  Does your child have an allergy or an intolerance?  What are they allergio/intolerant to?	Constant Land
Have you had this confirmed by a medical professional?  VES NO Have they been seen at an allergy clinic? If yes please provide more details.  What medical advice have you been given?	
Does your child need medication? (if yes provide details)  How much of the food does it take to cause a reaction?  What are the symptoms when they come in contact with the above?  How long does it take for a reaction to start after contact?	
When was the last time they had a reaction?  Is there anything else you would like us to know about your child's health?  happierhealthierco	ommunities.

# **Healthy Teeth, Happy Smiles**

Children in Lancashire and Cumbria have poorer dental health compared to children in other parts of England. The Smile4Life Programme was developed in partnership with local authorities to address this problem.

Oral health is important because:

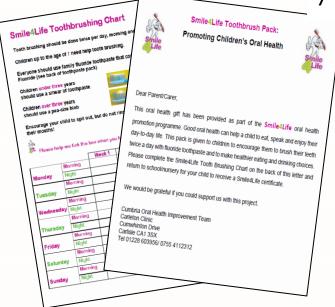
- teeth assist in language development,
- impacted or infected teeth lead to systemic illness
- teeth are related to positive self-image formation.
- tooth decay and pain can interfere with activities of daily living: such as eating, sleeping, attending school, and speaking.

The programme aims to reduce tooth decay in children, laying a solid foundation for their good oral health throughout life.

All the work you already do promoting healthy eating will make a positive impact on reducing tooth decay. Lessons and home activities to promote dental health should also be done.

You can order some 'Smile for Life' leaflets from the contact on on the letter.

These resources are also downloadable from our website.



If you have children with special needs and know they struggle with dental care, they can get support from a Specialist Hygienist who works with schools and can offer advice and support.

There is also flavorless toothpaste available if they struggle with strong flavors.



This Brush DJ app is great and makes brushing teeth fun.

There is also the **Singing Dentist** on YouTube which is good to watch and gives good messages to teenagers too.

https://youtu.be/io-VzeB0DEQ

### Sleep

Sleep is one of the most important foundations for health and wellbeing. It is also the factor most forgotten or ignored. Our service has many resources for schools and professionals working with school aged children. These support the improved understanding of sleep and by using the resources will hopefully help improve your pupil/student sleep pattern and quality.

We have lesson plans and power-points from Sleep Scotland to use within the health and wellbeing curriculum for both Primary and Secondary.

On the topic of school readiness we have a parent power-point for Nurseries as well as resources that can be used on a 1-1 basis and include weekly sleep charts, quiz's and questionnaires.

For parents we have PH 5-19 <u>factsheets</u> on promoting good sleep routines, and for young people we have a top tips for them to make changes to their routines to increase the amount of hours they sleep on a nightly basis.

Listen

As always, listen to what they have to say:

try to see the issue of sleep from teenagers' points of view and what it means to them

try to understand the obstacles teenagers may face in achieving enough good qualify sleep

Give teenagers the time and space to talk about their opinions on the topic properly

Please contact your local PH Nurse Team for school resources, the factsheets are available on our website.

#### **Sexual Health**

INTERS

Cumbria Sexual Health are available to enhance your RSE by delivering assemblies to school years 9-13. They provide young people with the knowledge of how and where to access sexual health clinics and the range of services they offer for contraception, pregnancy, STI's and sexual health emergencies.

#### David Morris email: david.morris@cumbria.nhs.uk

Cumbria Sexual Health Services Clinic Information  PLEASE NOTE: Some of our clinics now offer a combination of appointments and walk ins, for this information please call your nearest clinic.				North Cumbrid Integrated Care
				NHS Foundation To
Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
CLOSED	11.30am – 7.30pm	CLOSED	11.30am – 7.30pm	9.00am – 5.00pm
Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
09.00am - 5.00pm	11.30am – 7.30pm	CLOSED	CLOSED	08.00am - 4.00pm
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	me of our clinics n call your nearest of Monday CLOSED  Monday 09.00am - 5.00pm Monday 11.30am - 7.30pm Monday CLOSED  Monday CLOSED	me of our clinics now offer a combina call your nearest clinic.  Monday Tuesday  CLOSED 11.30am - 7.30pm  Monday Tuesday  09.00am - 5.00pm 11.30am - 7.30pm  Monday Tuesday  11.30am - 7.30pm CLOSED  Monday Tuesday  CLOSED CLOSED  Monday Tuesday  CLOSED CLOSED	Monday   Tuesday   Wednesday	me of our clinics now offer a combination of appointments and walk ins, for this call your nearest clinic.  Monday Tuesday Wednesday Thursday  CLOSED 11.30am - 7.30pm CLOSED 11.30am - 7.30pm  Monday Tuesday Wednesday Thursday  09.00am - 5.00pm 11.30am - 7.30pm CLOSED CLOSED  Monday Tuesday Wednesday Thursday  11.30am - 7.30pm CLOSED 00.00am - 5.00pm CLOSED  Monday Tuesday Wednesday Thursday  CLOSED 00.00am - 5.00pm 11.30am - 7.30pm  Monday Tuesday Wednesday Thursday  CLOSED CLOSED 00.00am - 5.00pm 11.30am - 7.30pm  Monday Tuesday Wednesday Thursday  CLOSED CLOSED 00.00am - 5.00pm 11.30am - 7.30pm  Monday Tuesday Wednesday Thursday

You will find a sexual health section on our website where

you can access the downloadable posters to display in your school to inform pupils of local services.

Solway Clinic, Carlisle Opening Times

Tel: 01228 608989

Graning Times

Tel: 01228 608989

Graning Times

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#### **School Readiness**

We are often told by Head Teachers that many children are starting school with a lack of basic self-care skills, including not being toilet trained, not being able to dress/undress themselves or being unable to hold a pen or cutlery.

By assessing the school readiness of children aged 3-4 years old, it is hoped that the information obtained can be used to inform future public health interventions and support in your school.

We are able to gather this data anonymously via an online school readiness survey, and produce reports which can be used to provide evidence of need within your school.

To help us achieve this goal we need you to help us promote our survey to parents.

The following link can be sent out or included on your website for parents in reception or nursery to complete online.

School Readiness PH 5-19 Public Health
Survey

To view a pdf of the survey click here

Don't forget we also have public health surveys for other year groups and an employee survey too!

**Employee Survey** 

Year 5 Public Health Survey

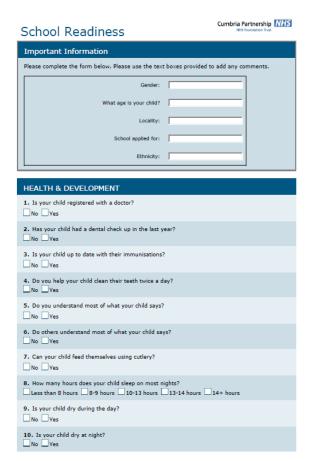
Year 7 Public Health Survey

Year 9 Public Health Survey

Year 6 Public Health Survey

Year 8 Public Health Survey

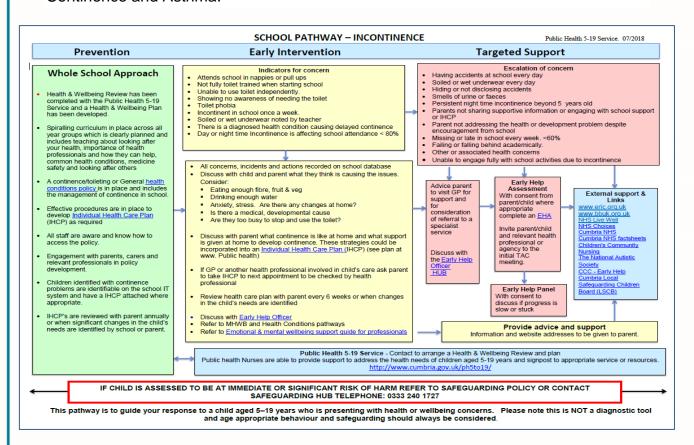
Year 10 Public Health Survey



### **Public Health 5-19 Pathways**

To help you support your pupils and students with low level or persistent health problems we have designed pathways that outline guidance, useful interventions and strategies as well as local and national support services and referral pathways. As we are all aware local resources and services change frequently so if you note any omissions or errors please let us know. We do our best to keep up to date but can't always be perfect!

You will find 11 pathways on our <u>website</u> which are all downloadable and include: Sexual Health, Emotional Health, Eating Issues, Healthy Weight, Health Conditions, Continence and Asthma.



Our website has many useful links and information on a range of childhood health conditions and links with many other local and national websites

www.cumbria.gov.uk/ph5to19



# **Healthy Body Healthy Mind Boxes**



We have been working with the library service supporting them with the production of Healthy Body, Healthy Mind boxes. These topic boxes are carefully chosen to support and enhance your PSHE.

#### **Public Health 5-19 Website**

We have lots of information on our website related to Cumbria's public health priorities of mental health, digital wellbeing, risk taking behaviour and healthy weight.

We are on Twitter - follow us <a href="mailto:ohealthy5to19"><u>@healthy5to19</u></a>



You can email your public health nurse direct for any staff training needs.



Claire O'Neill

**NORTH** 

Sam Fell

Michelle Young

**SOUTH** 

**Yvonne Rowlinson** 

**Donna Moore** 

**WEST** 

**Charlotte Thompson** 

**Louise Pearson**