

WORCESTERSHIRE
CHILDREN FIRST



CPB February 2022 Health Assessment Presentation

Principle

“The Corporate Parenting responsibilities of local authorities include having a duty under section 22(3) of the Children Act 1989 to safeguard and promote the welfare of the children they look after, including eligible children and those placed for adoption, regardless of whether they are placed in or out of authority or the type of placement. This includes the promotion of the child’s physical, emotional and mental health and acting on any early signs of health issues.”

(DFE Promoting the Health and Well-being of Looked After Children)

Looked after children share many of the same health risks as their peers – **but often to a greater degree**

Looked-after children and care leavers are between four and five times more likely to self-harm in adulthood. They are also at five-fold increased risk of all childhood mental, emotional and behavioural problems, and six to seven times more likely to have conduct disorders (Research in Practice)

What is a Health Assessment?

- Legal requirement
- Responsibility of Local Authority, CCG, NHS
- Baseline of child's presenting health needs to focus on support and intervention
- All health needs should be considered:

Physical, Sexual, Emotional and Mental, Wellbeing and Health Promotion

When are Health Assessments undertaken?

- Initial Health Assessment (IHA)
- Review Health Assessment (RHA)
- Under 5 years / Over 5 years
- Role of registered medical practitioner, nurse, health visitor and social worker and associated timescales

Data

- As of January 2022 there are 890 looked after children
- 75% Health Assessment completion rate in **timescale**
- Equates to 222 Health Assessments not completed in timescales
- 89% of the 222 are 'Part B' element for Health partners to undertake
- 50% of the this figure were submitted late to Health partners
- 74 of the 222 overdue Health Assessments are placed out of county; a third

Remedy to compliance

- Increased Health Visitor capacity
- Health Assessment progression working group
- Revised senior leads
- Proactive promotion

Quality

- Findings around quality of EHWB element
- Public Health Nursing lead audit
- Importance in accessing appropriate support (*'Passport' to EHWB and MH services*)

Remedies to quality

- ISL guidance and expectations to Health professionals
- Multi-agency audit around quality of EHWB element of Health Assessments – April 2022
- Escalation to CCG to liaise with receiving authority CCG's to prioritise WCF looked after children

Correlation with Mental Health pathways

- Working groups and boards
- Integrated Care System
- Collaborative mental health approach

Pledge

We will help you to access services that keep you healthy to include both emotional and physical health and wellbeing

Questions?