Integrated Community Paediatric Services

Integrated Community Paediatric Services (ICPS) consist of six core paediatric services and three additional services. We primarily support children and young people (0 to 18/19 years) with medical, developmental, neuro-disabling and cognitive disabilities and longer term health conditions. We work together in an integrated framework and evidence a personalised approach to the delivery of care that is responsive to the complexity of children, young people and their families’ needs.

Further information about our services can be found on the Suffolk Community Healthcare website by following the link below:

http://www.suffolkcommunityhealthcare.co.uk/OurServices/ChildrensServices.aspx

Brief service descriptors are given below:

**Paediatric Medical Team**
The medical team is made up of Consultant Paediatricians, Specialty Doctors, Specialist Nurses and associated administrative support staff. The team delivers specialist secondary care for children outside hospital in partnership with the therapy, nursing and psychology teams. Children from infancy to school leaving age (in some cases up to the age of 19) with a range of complex medical and developmental problems are under the care of this team. They also provide support to the Safeguarding pathways for assessment of children in the community, as well as an Adoption Medical Advisory Service and a new Children in Care nursing service for initial health assessments.

**Community Audiology and New-born Hearing Screening**
The aim of these services is to enable the early identification of unilateral or bilateral childhood hearing impairment and subsequent on-going referral and management. Multi agency support is offered for children and families in order to minimise the effects of hearing impairment on the child. The service in SCH is led by a Paediatric Audiology Scientist, supported by an audiology nursing team.

The Audiology service provides:

- Hearing screen to children where there are concerns about the child’s communication ability or where there are significant risk factors for hearing impairment.
- On-going review of children identified with a permanent hearing loss, requiring amplification, within a multi-disciplinary team setting to ensure that the child’s communication needs are met. Multi-disciplinary team includes a paediatrician, Advisory teacher from Education, Speech and Language Therapist (as appropriate), and Audiologist.
- Monitoring of children diagnosed with on-going hearing impairment who are not aided (e.g. Middle ear pathology, mild and unilateral loss).

The Newborn Hearing Screening Service in west Suffolk offers a hearing screen to all eligible newborn babies born in West Suffolk Hospital, or where a child moves into the west Suffolk area under the age of three months, using the defined national protocols for screening. The aim of the service is to enable timely referral into Audiology services of children who need further assessment of their hearing.

**Main Office telephone contacts:**
Ipswich: 01473 321200
Bury St Edmunds: 01284 741700

A service delivered by a partnership of:
The Ipswich Hospital NHS Trust
Norfolk Community Health and Care NHS Trust
West Suffolk NHS Foundation Trust
Children's Specialist Nursing Team
The Specialist Nursing Team consists of two main areas of service delivery:

- **Community Children's Nursing**: staff work across Suffolk providing a community based nursing service for children and young people with acute and complex/chronic health care nursing needs between the ages of 0 – 18 years. The team of qualified nurses and nursery nurses, supported by administrative support staff provide acute nursing care, nursing management and support to children with complex health care conditions and palliative care to children in the end stages of life in the child’s home and other community settings. Training is also given to parents and carers to enable them to care for children with specific care needs.

- **Specialist Nursing Team**: There is a team of specialist nurses and nursery nurses covering a wide range of roles in the community. These include the Specialist Health Visiting Service, Nurse Practitioner (working with the Medical Team), Children in Care Nurse Specialist, and ADHD Nurses (west only).

**Main Office telephone contacts:**
Ipswich: 01473 275320
Bury St Edmunds: 01284 741754

Paediatric Occupational Therapy Team
The primary role of Paediatric Occupational Therapy is to enable children and young people with functional disability to participate in everyday activities. The service provides assessment and treatment for children and young people 0 to 18/19 years with specific difficulties that are affecting their ability to access education and the environment. This is achieved by developing interventions that enhance their ability to participate or by modifying the environment through the use of specialist equipment, and this is done in partnership with parents and staff within the child’s educational setting. The service is provided by a specialist team of qualified occupational therapists, therapy technicians and assistants, as well as administrators.

**Main Office telephone contacts:**
Ipswich: 01473 321230
Bury St Edmunds: 01284 741714

Paediatric Physiotherapy Team
The Paediatric Physiotherapy service is delivered by a skill mixed team of qualified physiotherapists, therapy technicians/assistants and administrators who provide a specialised service to children up to the age of 28/19 years. The team assesses and treats children and young people with identified or suspected motor, neurological or developmental problems, to enable them to achieve optimal health and wellbeing, and to access and participate in the world around them. The physiotherapy team also coordinates the activity of Therapy Focus Suffolk, a team of highly specialist Physiotherapy, Occupational Therapy and Speech and Language Therapy staff who provide blocks of targeted assessment/therapy for children with Cerebral Palsy who need specialist advice or treatment in addition to that offered by their local therapy team. This may be to solve a specific problem or to identify a way forward when a child is having difficulties in specific areas.

**Main Office telephone contacts:**
Ipswich: 01473 321220
Bury St Edmunds: 01284 741714

A service delivered by a partnership of:
The Ipswich Hospital NHS Trust
Norfolk Community Health and Care NHS Trust
West Suffolk NHS Foundation Trust
Paediatric Speech and Language Therapy Team
The service provides assessment, differential diagnosis, intervention and management of children and young people aged 0 – 19 years with a wide range of communication and/or eating and drinking difficulties, including those children with severe and complex needs. Communication is an essential skill underpinning a child’s emotional, social and educational development. The Community Speech & Language Therapy Service is part of a continuum of services designed around the family. The service, comprising qualified speech and language therapists, therapy technicians/assistants and administrators ensure children’s speech, language and communication needs (SLCN) are met using evidence based interventions.

Main Office telephone contacts:
Ipswich: 01473 321225
Bury St Edmunds: 01284 741732

Suffolk Communication Aids Resource Centre (SCARC)
SCARC is a countywide assessment, support, training and advice service for children and young people who need to use an Alternative/Augmentative Communication (AAC) system such as an electronic Voice Output Communication Aid (VOCA). SCARC operates an Equipment Loan Bank and is also responsible for purchasing, setting up and providing short and long term loans of Communication Aids, including ongoing maintenance and repairs. The work of SCARC is guided by a multi-agency steering group with representation from Health, Social Care, Education, a service user as well as parents of AAC users. The Local Authority monitors and contributes to the budget for loan equipment and repairs.

Main Office telephone contact:
01473 744223

Community Child & Family Psychology Service
Child & Family Psychology Service aims to enable service users and their families to have the necessary skills and abilities to cope with their emotional needs and daily lives in order to maximise psychological and physical well-being; to develop and use their capacity to make informed choices in order to enhance and maximise independence and autonomy; to have a sense of self-understanding, self-respect and self-worth; to be able to enjoy good social and personal relationships; and to access commonly valued social and environmental facilities.

The team of clinical psychologists, assistant psychologists and associated support staff are responsible for assessment, diagnosis and providing interventions to children and young people with complex neuro-developmental difficulties. The team has specialist teams who target support to children with behavioural difficulties and autism who require complex support and management packages of care.

Main Office telephone contacts:
Woodbridge: 01394 389200

For General enquiries please contact our main bases:
- St Helen’s House: 01473 321200
- Bury Child Development Centre: 01284 741700

A service delivered by a partnership of:
The Ipswich Hospital NHS Trust
Norfolk Community Health and Care NHS Trust
West Suffolk NHS Foundation Trust
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