



Somerset Health Visiting Newsletter

Welcome to our new issue of the Health Visiting Newsletter!

We hope you had a lovely Summer and have had chance to rest and recharge.

We all thank you very much for the lovely feedback we have received about the newsletter and are pleased you are finding it useful.

We continue to welcome and appreciate your feedback on this newsletter and any other information you feel would be relevant. Please do not hesitate to get in contact with your local Health Visiting team.

We hope you have a good Autumn term!

An overview

We offer **all** families 5 core contacts. These consist of an Antenatal and New Birth visit and then a 6-8 week, 9-12 month & 2-2.5 year review.

Along side this, we support with areas of health and development in children ages 0-5.

We also support with the physical and emotional health of families in our service. We do this directly with families and often by working in partnership with any other agencies involved with the family.

Chat Health

Chat Health continues to be a way for parents to access Health Visitor Support. It's a confidential help and advice line

Chat Health is available 9-5 Monday—Friday. It is manned by a member of the Health Visiting team.

All parents have to do is **text** their enquiry/question to **07480 635 514**

Parents please feel free to use this number.

Development Reviews

We invite all children across our area for a 9-12 month and 2-2.5 year developmental review. With parental consent we can work with you, as an Early Years Setting, to offer support for families and to encourage development in all areas of their child's milestones, both physically, socially and emotionally.

If you think that a child has missed their developmental review then please do not hesitate to contact the team.

School Readiness

Even though you have just started a new academic year, it's never too early to start thinking about school readiness for those 3-4 year olds that will start school next year.

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=F-LYT_ic_FBI&feature=youtu.be

Please find embedded a link to a school readiness video. We have also attached the SCC school readiness pack to the email we sent this newsletter out on. Feel free to use these for advice and support for parents/carers to help children get ready for that next step to School.



The topic we have chosen to focus on this term is:

Encouraging speech development.

We invite all 2—2.5 year olds for a development review and frequently parents will raise concerns regarding speech. During the review we will discuss the importance of reading stories, singing songs and talking to their children.

We will signpost them to websites like Tiny, Happy People and Hungry Little Minds and the fact sheets provided by the CYPTS at <https://www.somersetft.nhs.uk/children-and-young-peoples-therapy-service/factfiles>. Alternatively parents can contact the advice line, featured in our previous news letter, on: 0303 0333 002.

If you have concerns around a child's speech, or a parent approaches you, please encourage them to access the above information.

Coming Soon

We will soon be using ELIM (Early Language Identification Measure) across Somerset.

This will become part of the 2-2.5 year review we carry out.

ELIM is a national programme being introduced to support and improve the early identification of speech, language and communication needs in early years

Over the summer your local Health Visiting team will have received training around ELIM ready for us to roll out later this year across the County.

If you want to know more ask your pre-school link person from your local HV team. Or get more information on the programme from:

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/best-start-in-speech-language-and-communication>

Bookstart:

Every Child is provided with a Bookstart pack at their new birth visit and also their 6-8 week check with the Health Visiting team.

We also have access to a number of specialist packs such as; books for additional languages or sensory bookstarts for children with visual or hearing impairments

Please do let your local health visiting team know if you have any children who would benefit from a specialist Bookstart pack.

Flu Vaccine

As we approach winter it is important to remember that Every 2 year old child is entitled to a Flu Vaccination through their GP. We encourage all children to get the vaccine so please do signpost parents to the information using this link: www.nhs.uk/conditions/vaccinations/child-flu-vaccine/

You can also find resources to be used in your setting at: https://assets.publishing.services.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/807432/PHE_flu_5_reasons_poster_2019.pdf

*Please note, if none of the links, embedded in this news letter, work by clicking on them then you should be able to copy and paste the link into your search engines search bar.