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28.9.21

Dear Parent/Carer,

Northumberland 0-19 Healthy Family Services

We are writing to let you know that from Friday 1st October, 2021 Harrogate and District NHS Foundation Trust (HDFT) will become responsible for providing the 0-19 Healthy Family Services in Northumberland. This is because Northumberland County Council has decided to enter into a partnership agreement with HDFT to provide the 0-19 Health Family Service for children, young people and families in the county. We are really pleased to be working with the council and we are looking forward to working with the team of Health Visitors, School Nurses and other staff who currently provides this service – many of whom you will already know.

From Friday 1st October the current team's employer will transfer to HDFT and we want to reassure you that all of the 0-19 Healthy Family Services Team will continue in their roles, ensuring there is no disruption to the service. This will not make any difference to how you access the service or how the team contacts you, however you may notice in the future that correspondence is headed with #TeamHDFT.

HDFT is the biggest provider of 0-19 Healthy Family Services in the UK, and we are passionate about the difference the 0-19 Healthy Family Service can make for children, young people and families. As we start working in Northumberland we want to work together with you, our teams and partners, to develop and improve the service we offer to better meet the needs of communities and improve outcomes. If we make any changes in the future that will affect your family, we will ensure you are informed.

We currently provide 0-19 services in County Durham, Middlesbrough, Darlington, Stockton, Sunderland, Gateshead and North Yorkshire, and we take great pride in providing high levels of care for children, young people and their families so that they can get the best possible start in life.

We will continue to provide the national Healthy Child Programme and carry out the key developmental reviews on children under five years old. We will support children and young people when they face key transition points in their lives - this includes starting school and moving into further education and adulthood. In addition, we will work closely with nurseries, schools and colleges to improve the health and wellbeing of children and young people. We will also continue to be responsible for measuring and weighing children as part of the National Child Measurement Programme. Every school and GP practice will continue to have a linked

Specialist Public Health Nurse to ensure communication and referrals into the service are easy and accessible.

Although our Trust name is Harrogate and District, we already provide services across the North East, and we will also now have bases in Northumberland too. The teams who manage the 0-19 service will continue to be based in Northumberland as they are now, and there will be no need for you to receive any support or care from Harrogate – we will continue to provide all support locally.

If you have any questions regarding this change or require further information please email hdfn.northumberland0-19@nhs.net

We look forward to providing you and your family with the highest levels of care and support.

Yours sincerely,



Steve Russell
Chief Executive
#hellomynameis Steve



Suzanne Lamb
Head of Safeguarding HDFT,
Head of Nursing Community and
Children's Directorate