Devon County Council

Devon Public Health Nursing Service (School Nursing) in Primary Schools

Dear Parent/Carer

We would like to take the opportunity to update you about the School Nursing service and how we might be able to support you and your family at this time.

Your School Nurse team works within schools and the wider community to:

- Provide health advice to help children and young people make the best of their education
- Provide advice and support to parent/carers and schools
- Support young people to look after their own health
- Direct children and their families to the right services.
- Undertake review of growth as part of National Child Measurement programme (Reception and Year 6).
- Identify health needs and trends at a community level to inform current and future services and allocation of resources.

This is provided via:

- A referral system so parents, carers, young people and professionals can request support from the School Nurse team/service
- Confidential clinic appointments (book via PHN hub). These may be face to face, via video conference using Microsoft teams or via phone.
- Phone advice and support (PHN hub contact details below)

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As a parent you can talk to the School Nurse about any health concerns for your child which may include:

- Healthy lifestyle choices - including healthy eating and physical activity
- Worries about your child's physical and mental health
- Body shape or size
- Stress at school or at home
- Management of a health condition
- Keeping safe
- Friendships and bullying
- Sleep
- Bladder and bowel issues (toileting advice)

At the current time this may also include worries associated with Coronavirus and the impact this has had (or could have) on you and your family, or concerns about your child starting or returning to school.

When we work with families, confidentiality and information sharing will be discussed with you. If there is a concern that someone may be suffering, or is at risk of significant harm information is shared following safeguarding procedures.

YOUR SCHOOL NURSE TEAM can be contacted at:

Exeter and Crediton area	rde-tr.exeterphnhub@nhs.net	T: 0333 234 1902
South and West Devon (Teignbridge, South Hams and Tavistock area)	rde-tr.southernphnhub@nhs.net	T: 0333 234 1901
North Devon, Torridge and Okehampton area	rde-tr.northernphnhub@nhs.net	T: 0333 234 1904
East Devon, Tiverton and Cullompton area	rde-tr.easternphnhub@nhs.net	T: 0333 234 1903

https://www.devon.gov.uk/educationandfamilies/health/public-health-nursing-useful-links