

Northern health Centre
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London
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whh-tr.islchildrensreferrals@nhs.net
www.whittington.nhs.uk

Friday 8th January 2021

Dear all

RE: Whittington Health Services

Following the government announcement on 4th January 2021, I am writing to you to outline the measures Whittington Health will be taking to support children, young people and their families during the second surge of the pandemic.

We are very aware how hard all children centres, schools and colleges are working to support vulnerable children and young people to ensure that they have access to the support they need to access education and continued learning.

As you may be aware a number of our staff are being requested to be redeployed again into the Whittington Hospital and the Nightingale to support our most critically ill people. This means that we will have fewer staff available. We will however continue to operate our essential service areas at all times, and we have duty systems for our teams to answer calls and queries from families/professionals. Please see attached.

Universal Services:

Bright Start Health Visiting services and FNP are continuing to deliver a full range of activities both face to face in homes, in health centres and by video or audio platforms dependent on need and in discussion with families. These activities include the healthy child programme mandated contacts; new parent groups; introduction to solid workshops and ante natal classes.

Health visitor appointment only clinics are operating across the week in 7 locations and a duty line operates Mon-Fri (020 3316 8008) The website has full details of our offer <https://www.whittington.nhs.uk/default.asp?c=40906>

Whittington Health NHS Trust

Interim Chair: David Holt

Chief executive: Siobhan Harrington



Helping local people live longer healthier lives



The School Nursing service continues to offer support and advice for young people and families using virtual platforms and where appropriate face to face contact in a clinical setting. Priority is given to those young people where additional needs have been identified and support requested by schools.

The school nursing service continues to offer training on a number of key health promotion topics including management of minor illnesses; sleep; bed wetting, healthy diet and nutrition and emotional well-being.

The duty line operated Mon- Fri 020 3316 8021/ whh-tr.IslingtonSchoolNursing@nhs.net

CAMHS:

We are continuing to deliver our priority service areas working with vulnerable and high risk children and young people face to face (F2F) where needed. These include Adolescent Inpatient, Crisis and Adolescent Assessment and Outreach Teams; complex therapeutic interventions; neurodevelopmental assessments.

Where F2F appointments are required, staff will be taking appropriate measures to ensure that these are safe, including enhanced cleaning and use of PPE. Staff offering F2F appointments are self-testing for C-19 twice weekly.

In line with government announcements about school closures, whilst we continue to deliver a CAMHS schools service, this will be done remotely for all mainstream schools. In exceptional circumstances, where there are concerns about risk or safeguarding, a decision will be made on a case by case basis about how and where the child or young person should be seen.

We will continue to work directly into the Special Schools and the PRU, as these remain open.

Our CAMHS Early Years teams will provide services remotely unless exceptional circumstances (as described above) are identified. This will be reviewed at the end of January.

Our teams have developed resources for schools and early years settings to support staff and children, young people and families during lockdown – please contact your clinician or team via the central CAMHS number: 020 3316 1824 directly for more information.

The Social, Emotional and Mental health (SEMH) duty and advice team will continue to run as usual, and the phone number should be used for SEMH advice about new referrals: 020 7257 3355.

Therapy:

All open cases to therapy have been reviewed and rated with regards to risk and priority and some are continuing on a case by case basis, either virtually or face to face as clinically appropriate.

We will also continue where possible to complete autism diagnostic assessments, assessments for EHCP and provide virtual support for pupils whom have specified provision.

We will also be available to support children centres, schools and clinics with individual pupil queries and provide training virtually if requested.

Other work (including work with families and consultation work with multi-agency staff) will continue via telephone/video where appropriate.

Teams are communicating directly with the agencies they work with (schools/early years settings/local authority teams) to prioritise their work and ensure that they are meeting the need of families and staff as far as possible.

Special Schools and Children with an EHCP:

We are working with our special schools and the SEN department to look at what support we will be able to give to schools which remain open.

Our therapy and nursing service will also be available to provide advice and support to families with children with complex needs who are at home and will help co-ordinate any additional care needs which may be required if parents or carers are sick and also support to ensure that you have access to resources both practical such as medicines and pads but also educational through the schools learning portal.

We have pulled together a lot of additional information regarding COVID 19 for families and for CYP on our website and we will be using this space to upload resources for CYP and families to use at home. Please follow this link [Children and Young People Services](#)

Central referral enquiries will remain open please use our email contact and we will monitor this

The general number: 020 3316 1877 e mail: whh-tr.islchildrensreferrals@nhs.net

This plan is subject to change as the situation develops, and we will update you accordingly. Please also be reassured that all most of our staff who are delivering face to face work will be regularly testing themselves with the lateral flow tests and will be wearing full PPE.

If you feel there is something else that we could be offering or would like to discuss this further please don't hesitate to contact us.

Best wishes

Lesley Platts &
Head CYP

Sheron Hosking
AD CAMHS

Whittington Health NHS Trust

Duty Numbers for Teams

Name of Service	Essential services that will be provided	Contact details for clients & patients
CAMHS	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> All CAMHS services will continue to be delivered, either remotely or F2F depending on clinical need. Central Point of Access referrals and SEMH duty and advice will continue to be staffed as usual. 	<p>CAMHS (for cyp already involved with CAMHS): 020 3316 1824</p> <p>SEMH duty and advice (for new referrals): 020 7527 3355</p>
Health Visiting & Family Nurse Partnership (FNP)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> New birth visits and follow up required will continue F2F 6-8 week reviews F2F Clinic Based 1 & 2 Year developmental reviews TBC Safeguarding work. Will include some face to face contact with families and phoning into multi-agency safeguarding meetings - CP conferences, strategy meetings, core group meetings, child in need meetings, discharge planning meetings, professionals meetings and child death meetings Some face to face provision in appointment only clinics Phone advice available to families 	<p>Highbury Grange HC : 020 3316 8008</p>
Mainstream School Nursing	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Advice to schools and other agencies available on the phone Input to current safeguarding cases will continue and phoning into multi-agency safeguarding meetings as detailed above. 	<p>Duty Line: 020 3316 8021</p>
Children's therapies – Physio, OT SLT & Dietetics	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Support from SLT for babies discharged from hospital with significant feeding difficulties and all children with unstable dysphagia Physio & OT service for children 	<p>Mainstream team SLT: 0207 5275674 OT/PT: 0203 3161997</p> <p>Special Schools: 0203 316 1891</p>

	<p>discharged after significant surgery or who need equipment adapted</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Dietetics – urgent enteral feeding/supplements/weighing support for babies discharged from hospital/disabled children at risk of aspiration	<p>MSK Physio : 0203 3161971</p> <p>Acute/ Urgent Physio: 07768485332</p> <p>SCT: 07818015763</p> <p>EYDT: 020 3316 1893</p> <p>EY SLT: 020 3316 1897</p>
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