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Clinical Commissioning Group



**Chiltern**  
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## Update on children's services in Bucks

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Clinical Director  
Children and Young People





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***“It is easier to build strong  
children than to repair  
broken men”  
Frederick Douglass***

***“Children are our most  
valuable resource”.  
Herbert Hoover***



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## ACHIEVEMENTS 2016/17

- Integrated therapies commissioned
- Autism Spectrum Disorder (ASD) / Attention deficit hyperactivity disorder (ADHD) neurodevelopmental workshop with the development of a integrated diagnostic pathway
- Appointment of a DCO (designated clinical officer) for children with Special Educational Needs (SEN) and disabilities

### Physiotherapy, Speech and Language Therapy and Occupational Therapy services for children and young people in Bucks are changing.

We asked parents, carers, young people and professionals what sort of issues they encountered with the current service:

Problems can be caused when staff can't see each other's notes

Sometimes my calls aren't returned and I don't always understand reports

Some teaching staff don't have the right skills to help with therapy

Waiting times are too long and it can be hard to access therapy services



Services are not very modern and resources can be poor quality

We don't know how to help our child progress with their therapy

Communication between therapy services isn't always good



So what are our plans for making these services better for children and young people, parents and carers? →

Buckinghamshire Healthcare NHS Trust will be providing all three therapy services and you will be kept informed of any changes that might affect you.

#### The new services will be:



#### Integrated

The three services will be joined up into one service for better communication and focus on the child or young person.



#### Online

The new services will make use of technology, such as online videos and apps.



#### Efficient

There will be one IT system for all 3 services so that all therapists are up to date with an individual's history and needs.



#### Supportive

Parents will receive improved communication and will be shown how they can help their child's progress. Therapists will also coach teaching staff on how to provide support.

For more information, please visit [www.letstalkhealthbucks.nhs.uk](http://www.letstalkhealthbucks.nhs.uk) or call Bucks Family Information Service on 01296 383065



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## ASD & ADHD pathways

- As of July 2017 BCC were responsible for 892 statements or Education, Health and Care (EHC) plans for children and YP with ASD.
- >50 % increase from 2012
- 892 equates to 5.4/1000 children or YP resident in Bucks (aged 0-25)

- 
- Workshop held early October 2017 to look at the diagnostic and treatment pathways for ASD & ADHD
  - Multidisciplinary with Paediatricians, Therapists, Children and Adult Mental Health Services (CAMHS), Education, Commissioners and most importantly **PARENTS**.
  - Looked at our existing pathways and heard poignant stories from the parents about the journey they had come through with their children.



## Parents Journey

*School setting often see if they can resolve in setting and advise to review next academic year. Also refer back to GP*

*Parental concern at any age – go to GP who advises you speak to your school setting*

*Diagnosis finally received and parents are left hanging without any further support*

*CAMHS refer to GP who refer to Paeds who refer to PRU who refer to CAMHS and turns in to a revolving circle or referring to other services*

*Schools raise concerns over behaviour – often felt to be seen as mums fault*



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*Waiting lists are long with time often delayed due to cancellations of appts. It's then an even longer wait for the reports, which are not explained*

*No support after diagnosis for ways forward*

*Information is not all in one place, multiple phones calls to try and get the information you want/need*

*Most information seems to come from other parents, the whole process then takes over your life.*





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- Following on from this a working group came together with the list of priorities.
  - Devised a new combined paediatric/CAMHS diagnostic pathway for children with suspected ASD/ADHD.
  - Works with a Single Point of Access
  - No more age cut offs
  - Buckinghamshire Healthcare NHS Trust will be funding 2 assistant psychologist roles to screen all referrals thus freeing up consultant paediatrician time.
  - Roles will sit within CAMHS with supervision by consultant psychiatrists in team
  - It is hoped that this will go live from early January 2018



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- DCO for SEND in post since July 2017 working 3 days a week
  - Working closely with families and young people (Families and Carers Together in Bucks – FACT & Special Educational Needs and Disability Information, Advice and Support Service – SENDIAS)
  - Attends the Special Educational Needs Advisory Panel and gives input into the health requirements of the children for EHCP or HNBF
  - Working with schools to help to support the health needs of children e.g. diabetes, epilepsy

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## CHALLENGES

- Transformative work needs vision, good leadership and buy in from all parties. Once the snowball is pushed it gathers snow quickly but can be very difficult to get going in the first place!
- Accountable Care System –a real chance to have a clear focus on children and YP whilst joining up with adults. All age pathways are great as long as children don't get lost
- Transitions. We must work hard to ensure that young people do not fall “off a cliff edge” when they leave children's services.



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**“There can be no keener  
revelation of a society’s soul  
than the way in which it  
treats it’s children”  
Nelson Mandela**



- Thankyou for listening
- Hope you all have a great Christmas
- Any Questions?