



Services for Young Children

Blog article

Integrating the 2 year old assessment

As you may already be aware, the Government's Supporting Families in the Foundation Years (FitFY) published in 2011, set out their vision for the system of services to support parents, children and families in the foundation years from pregnancy until a child's fifth birthday. This document included a commitment to 'explore options for a single integrated review from 2015', bringing together the Healthy Child Programme review at 2 to 2½ years and the Early Years progress check at age two. The Government is currently developing a model for the integrated review and will provide further guidance on how this can be implemented from 2015.

In anticipation of this, a multi-agency group consisting of representatives from health visiting, children's centres, Services for Young Children and PVI early years settings is being formed to explore how integrated working in this area can be strengthened in order to;

- identify the child's progress, strengths and needs to promote positive outcomes in health and well-being, learning and development,
- facilitate appropriate intervention and support for children and their families, where progress is less than expected,
- generate information which can be used to plan services and contribute to the reduction of inequalities in children's outcomes.

As part of the initial approach to strengthen information sharing, health visiting teams are already recording a summary of the main points of the 2 year old Healthy Child Programme review within the Personal Child Health Record (PCHR, also known as the red book). Health Visitors are encouraging parents to share this summary with their child's Early Years Setting and practitioners are also advised to ask parents if they would like to share this record with them to support the completion of the Early Years Progress Check.