

Initial Health Assessment Pathway for Child/Young Person becoming Cared for (Looked After) by Cheshire East Council (0-18 years)

**Within 2
working
days**

Placement service notifies Cared for Children's Health Team of child becoming cared for by Cheshire East Council.
The child's Social Worker initiates Initial Health Assessment (IHA) by completing part A of IHA form on child's liquid logic record and attaching a copy of the delegated health consent (signed by Parent, Group Manager or young person if over 16yrs depending on legal status).
This is sent to the Cared for Children's Health Tray on Liquid logic.

C4CHT to:

Notify
School
Health
Nurse, GP,
Health
Visitor,
School
Health
Advisor and
Family
Nurse
Practitioner
(as
appropriate)

Cared for Children's Health Team (C4CHT) ensures that a statutory health assessment appointment with a paediatrician is requested:

- NHS Eastern CCG Paediatric Secretary MDGH (ECNT) via secure email to: enc-tr.Paediatrics@nhs.net
- South CCG Paediatric Secretary Leighton Community Paediatrics MCHFT) via secure email to: tmc-tr.initialhealthassessments@nhs.net
- Arrangements for children placed out of area are co-ordinated via the C4C Nurse Specialists Health Assessment.
- CG Gold and Systm One Child Health Records will be attached as a PDF

An appointment is arranged for Paediatrician to complete Initial Health Assessment within 20 working days of the child or young person being received into care.

Designated Doctor to Quality Assure the IHA & highlight significant health conditions prior to returning it to the C4CHT who will distribute to:

- Social Worker via Liquid logic
- Lead health professional and GP
- Carer and young person (dependent on age and understanding)

**By 20th
working
day**

C4CHT will create liquid logic Part C in the child's record and attach the BAAF summary and health care plan into the record. This will include an update: date of health assessment, dental checks, immunisations and any significant health conditions.

Part C of Initial Health Assessment Form should be available at Child/Young Person at Cared for Review.

C4CHT will liaise with Social Worker, Carer /Young person (dependent on age and understanding) to offer an appointment to complete a health assessment or questionnaire and create a health care plan.



When a Child/Young Person does not consent to see a Paediatrician the Social Worker should discuss this refusal with the Cared for Children's Health Team (C4CHT) who will record that the initial health assessment has been refused.

Additional Notes

- The aim of this health assessment pathway is to provide a simple visual guide for both health and social care colleagues.
- Delegated health consent should be obtained from a person with parental responsibility at the point of entry into care. Dependant on the child's legal status this is likely to be the child's birth parent, social care group manager or other legal guardian.
- It is a social work statutory requirement to ensure that initial health assessments are requested and that delegated health consent is available. Senior Unit Co-Ordinators will have a pivotal role in relation to communication between the C4CHT and social care.
- Coram BAAF documentation will be used supported by Cheshire East Liquid logic health assessment forms.
- The IHA form is created on the child's Liquid logic record this is referred to as part A. This form is sent to the C4CHT shared "Health" work tray on Liquid logic.
- Arrangements for Children in Eastern Cheshire Clinical Commissioning Group (CCG) will usually be made via Paediatricians at Macclesfield Hospital. Arrangements for children from South Cheshire CCG will usually be made via Community Paediatrics at Leighton Hospital. Where this is not possible responsible commissioner arrangements will be adhered to.
- Appointments letters should be sent to the child's carer with a copy for the child's social worker and C4CHT.
- Every effort will be made to combine any existing appointments and assessment information in order to avoid duplication.
- Once the health assessment is complete a Liquid logic part C is completed by the C4CHT and the health care plan attached.
- The health care plan for will routine SDQ screening for 5-16 year olds (see separate pathway).
- The wishes and feelings of a Gillick competent Child/Young Person should be taken into account. When a young person refuses a health assessment / or questionnaire the Social Worker should discuss refusal C4CHT. (See separate 16+ health assessment did not attend and refusal pathway.)
- In some circumstances and dependent on the nature of the case, the Social Worker may need to seek legal advice, or in extreme circumstances, present the matter to the Court for direction.
- Where compliance with the pathway is not achieved the IHA escalation pathway should be followed.

Relevant Statutory Guidance:

"Promoting the Health and Well Being of Looked After Children" (DfE & DoH, 2015)