The health and wellbeing of every child/young person who is looked after by the local authority will be supported during their time in care.

**Why is a health assessment needed?**

There is a legal requirement for all children/young people who become looked after to have a health assessment.

**What happens in the health assessment?**

A healthcare professional will conduct the health assessment. Initial appointments will be with the community paediatrician. Reviews will be completed by either a specialist nurse for looked after children, or the community paediatrician.

As the child/young person’s foster carer, you will be asked if there are any health and well-being concerns such as general health, hearing, vision, dental and behaviour.

Records are checked to ensure that immunisations are up to date. Concerns about emotional health will also be discussed.

If the child is seen by a paediatrician, they will have a general medical examination including weight and height and a developmental assessment for pre-school children.

**When is the health assessment done?**

The health assessment must be undertaken within the first month of the child becoming looked after.

If the child has had a health assessment or a medical within the last three months then this information may be sufficient and a further appointment may not be required.

If the child remains in care, health assessments will take place every six months for children under 5 years, and every twelve months for children between 5 and 18 years.

**What will be the outcome of the assessment?**

A plan will be drawn up to ensure that the child will stay healthy, enjoy achieving and attending school, and stay safe. As the foster carer, you will be sent a copy of the health plan. The health plan will be reviewed and you will have an opportunity to discuss this at the child’s looked-after review.

**How is the health assessment arranged?**

An appointment may be arranged either by letter or a telephone call.

**Who should accompany the child?**

Foster carers should attend the health assessment. In some cases, the child's social worker or parent may also attend the meeting.

Children under the age of 16, depending on their age and understanding, will be consulted about the health assessment and who they would like to attend.

In some cases, an older young person may make the choice to be seen alone. The specialist nurse or doctor will discuss this decision with the young person and, providing they have sufficient understanding, the nurse or doctor will see the young person alone for their health assessment.

**What to take to the assessment?**

- Red Book - if available.
- Dates seen by GP.
- Dates of hearing test, vision test and next review date, if any.
- Date last seen by dentist and next review date.
- Immunisations given since last health assessment.
- Dates of visits to A&E or admissions to hospital.
Contact us

If you have any questions or require additional information, please contact us on 020 3771 6100 or email: lac.hounslow@nhs.net

Please contact the team for a copy of this leaflet in large font.

Patient Advice and Liaison Service (PALS)

We provide free, informal, confidential help and advice for patients, carers and their families. We can help if you have a compliment, question or concern about community health services in Hounslow and Richmond.

Community healthcare covers most of the services that are provided outside of hospital or GP surgeries.

Contact PALS on: 0800 953 0363 or email pals.hrch@nhs.net

Language support

We can help you if English is not your first language. If you would like to receive this leaflet in a language or format of your choice please contact the PALS team who will be happy to help.

Arabic

يمكننا مساعدتك إذا لم تكون الإنجليزية لغتك الأولى. إذا كنت ترغب في الحصول على هذا الكتاب بلغة أخرى ممارسة مع اختيار نوع الاتصال بفريق PALS ، نحن سيساعدون بتنظيم المساعدة.

Farsi

اگر انگلیسی زبان ارزش می‌تواند به شما کمک کند، اگر ممکن باشد به زبان و یا نشر مورد نظر دریافت نمایید، لطفاً با گروه PALS تماس بگیرید و آنها در نهایت اختیاری شما را کمک می‌نمایند.

Polish


Punjabi

ਸੀ ਜੰਗੜ ਦੇ ਸੁਂਦਰ ਸਰਕਾਰ ਦੇ ਜਰੀਏ ਸੋਨੇ ਦੀ ਸਾਰੀ ਕਲਾ ਲਈ ਕੁਦਰਤੀ ਪ੍ਰਾਪਤੀ ਕੌਚ ਦੇ ਨਾਲ ਹਰ ਧਾਰਾ ਦੀ ਸੁਰੱਖਿਅਤ ਵਿਸ਼ਵਾਸ ਨਾਲ ਅਨੁਸਾਰ ਕੀਤੇ ਜਾ ਰਿਹਾ ਹਨ ਬਹੁਤ ਵਧ ਪ੍ਰਾਪਤੀ ਨਾਲ ਜੋਖਮੀਆਂ ਚੌਚਾਣ ਪ੍ਰਾਪਤ ਹੋ ਜਾਂ। PALS ਦੇਸ਼ ਰਾਜ ਸਰਕਾਰ ਦੇ ਬਹੁਤ ਲਹਿਰੀਆਂ ਨਾਲ ਹਰ ਧਾਰਾ ਦੇ ਜੁਹਾਂ ਕਈ ਜੁਹਾਂ ਦੀ ਪ੍ਰਭਾਵਸ਼ੀਲਤਾ ਦੇਖ ਸੀ।

Somali

Anaga waxaan ku caawinkaraa hadii Injirisa owsan ahayn kuwaadafaada. Waa aad ka dooneysat warqad u yar kuwaad kale ama siiyaha kale ayaad u dooren kartaan in leh u habayo fadlan la xiriir kooxda ee PALS ee aad ugu faraansan in aay ku cawin karaa.