

**Children & Young People 0-19 Public Health Service**

Single Point of Access (SPA)  
Universal Childrens Services  
South Parade  
Summertown  
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01865 903800

Email: CYP0-19@oxfordhealth.nhs.uk

**Starting School: Information for parents & carers of children in reception**

From April 2024 the newly commissioned 0-19 Children and Young People (CYP) service brought together the health visiting, school nursing and family nurse teams to work with children between the ages of 0-19 and their parents/carers in Oxfordshire. There is a team of qualified school health nurses and associates to support children in school with medical needs. We provide advice on health-related issues, offer health reviews, support families with complex needs, and assist with health promotion activities. Safeguarding children is at the heart of what we do, and we work with parents and carers as well as with partner agencies such as social and health care services.

If you would like to discuss your child's medical needs and their transition to school, you can contact us by using our ChatHealth text service.

**Contacting the Service**

**ChatHealth -ParentLine**, is a texting service for parents and carers. You can text anytime of the day or night, and you will have a response from a member of the 0-19 CYP team the next working day, between 9am -5pm Monday to Friday (excluding Bank Holidays).

Parents /carers of children aged 0-4 - 07312 263081.

Parents /carers of children aged 5-11– 07312 263227.

**You can also contact us via 0-19 CYP Single Point of Access**

**Email:** [cyp0-19@oxfordhealth.nhs.uk](mailto:cyp0-19@oxfordhealth.nhs.uk)

**Tele:** 01865 903800

## **School readiness**

As part of the new service a 4-year review was introduced and may have already been offered to your child by the health visiting team. Your health visitor can give you support to help your child achieve their early learning goals and are the health professional responsible for your child until they are five years old. School health nurses work closely with health visitors and continue to support children who have difficulties achieving these goals e.g. nocturnal enuresis (bed wetting) support. For advice on toilet training visit [www.eric.org.uk](http://www.eric.org.uk)

If your child has ongoing health needs, your health visitor may work with you and your child until the age of eight.

You can help your child prepare for school by encouraging them to eat a varied diet, get a good night's sleep, and to be independent with dressing and toileting.

The Family Lives website has some excellent advice and tips for parents.

[Parenting and Family Support - Family Lives \(Parentline Plus\) | Family Lives](#)

There is also useful information on the Oxfordshire County council website.

[What is school readiness? | Oxfordshire County Council](#)

## **Support for children with special educational needs and disabilities (SEND)**

School nurses and health visitors may contribute to the support of pupils with special educational needs and disabilities in school or consult with specialist services who are involved with the child and family. For more information visit the Local Offer on [Oxfordshire SEND local offer | Oxfordshire County Council](#)

## **Immunisation review**

Before your child starts primary school, they should have completed their primary course of immunisations and received their pre-school boosters at your GP practice. If you are unsure if your child has had all their routine immunisations, refer to your child's 'red book' or ask your GP or practice nurse.

The school based seasonal flu immunisation will be offered at school for children in reception between October and January. This is administered via a nasal spray. The School Age Immunisation Service (SAIS) will be liaising with schools and sending electronic consent forms and further information. If you have any immunisation

queries, please check the website [Oxfordshire SAIS - Oxford Health NHS Foundation Trust](#) or e-mail; [immunisationteam@oxfordhealth.nhs.uk](mailto:immunisationteam@oxfordhealth.nhs.uk) .

For more information review the [Full Immunisation schedule for children under 5](#)

### **Managing medicines in school**

If your child needs medication to be available in school, for use in an emergency, it is important to inform your child's school of this and follow their procedures for administering medicines.

If your child needs to take medication during the school day, you will need to discuss this directly with your child's school.

All prescribed medication taken into school must have a pharmacy label with the name of your child, the name of the medication, with the dose and times required. Any other medication is in accordance with school policy.

It is the parent's responsibility to ensure any medication given to school is in date. It should be replaced before it expires, and all out of date medication should be disposed of by parents.

### **Support for children with specific medical needs**

The school health nurse team offer school staff training in the management of some medical conditions which may require emergency medication. In addition to this they can support school staff in compiling specific care plans for children with complex medical needs in school.

### **Health needs assessments**

The school health nurse team will offer, when requested, health assessments to children including those who are, subject to Child Protection Planning and under Local Authority Care. We request that any referral for your child to the school nursing team has your consent, and you will be invited to any appointment we may have with them.

## **School Screening Programmes**

As part of the School Health Screening Programme, all children in Reception are offered:

- Vision Screening
- Height and Weight Measurement through the **National Child Measurement Programme (NCMP)**

The School Screening Team will visit your child's school during the reception year. You will receive an information letter before the school session, with full details. If you do not wish your child to take part in these screenings, please follow the opt-out instructions in the letter. Unless a child is opted out, they will be invited to participate.

## **Accessing Screening Results**

Results will be available within two weeks after the screening, via our secure online Parent portal School Screener

👉 This is the only way to receive your child's screening results.

Please create an account using the link below **now**, once results are ready you will be notified to log in and view the results letter (further information will be sent ahead of your child's screening session). If your child needs follow-up care (e.g. referral to an optician or an eye hospital), the information will **only** be shared through your School Screener account. Therefore, it is very important you create this account now so that it is ready for when screenings take place.

[Create a School Screener Account](#)

## **School attendance**

Absence from school is sometimes unavoidable, but frequent absences for minor illnesses may contribute to pupils getting behind with their work, finding friendships difficult to maintain and losing confidence in the classroom.

Please consider: -

- Does your child have an infectious disease ?
- Is your child well enough to manage school activities?

Encourage your child to get back to school as soon as they are well.

For more information visit- [Is my child too ill for school? - NHS](#)



