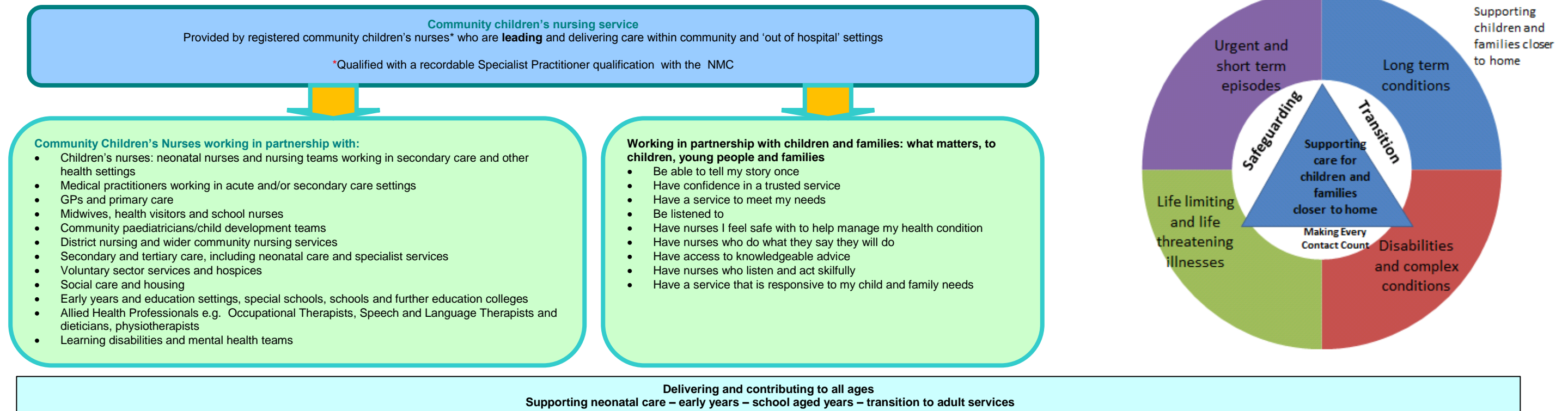


Maximising the role of Community Children's Nursing teams Service contribution to high quality, compassionate and excellent health and wellbeing outcomes for children cared for in community settings

The core values and behaviours of the community children's nursing team and the contribution they make in ensuring the inter-connectivity between the child and their family and health and social care service provision. This scope is set in the context of the broader national nursing strategy – [Compassion in practice](#). This scope builds on the core values and behaviours for community children's nurses together with the six priority actions for maintaining health and wellbeing outcomes.



Using [Compassion in Practice: Nursing, Midwifery and Care Staff: Our Vision and Strategy](#) as the core values to support delivery



- Care**
- Working in partnership with parents, children, young people and other agencies to improve outcomes for the individual child or young person
 - Providing holistic care for acutely ill children, children with disabilities and those with long term conditions (aged 0-19 years) within the community setting
 - Empowering families to gain skills and confidence in caring for their sick children at home, in early years and education settings
 - Providing support for urgent episodes of care

- Compassion**
- Listening and being responsive to the needs of the child
 - Recognising the impact that the illness or disability will have on the child's parents/carers or family
 - Providing care with dignity and respect
 - Recognising the needs of the child beyond the service and the impact this will have on family life
 - Supporting the team in difficult circumstances
 - Recognising and valuing diversity

- Competence**
- Providing leadership
 - Being flexible and using competencies, knowledge and skills
 - Using new skills and being responsive to case management
 - Developing a diverse portfolio of knowledge and skills
 - Ensuring risk assessment and specialist use of skills
 - Providing leadership by appropriately qualified staff
 - Ensuring career opportunities for all staff. Providing support and supervision to develop staff
 - Ensuring skill mix reflects local population needs
 - Ensuring competence amongst partners through providing training and support

- Communication**
- Listening to children, young people and families to find out what they want
 - Communicating with all members of multi-disciplinary teams
 - Providing seamless service
 - Communicating and engaging with the child at their level
 - Ensuring effective discharge planning
 - Working across professional boundaries to support partnership approaches
 - Using technology to support the family

- Courage**
- Promoting independence for families to care for the child
 - Empowering families to take control
 - Being an advocate Assessing risk with dignity through understanding the uniqueness of children's needs
 - Pushing boundaries – to ensure that every child can go home and to school
 - Making difficult decisions – e.g. end of life
 - Rising to the challenge to provide quality of care at home
 - Influencing and commissioning, inspiring other professionals and helping them to find courage.

- Commitment**
- Empowering children, young people and families through transitions
 - Transforming services and delivery for future.
 - Providing high quality support for care needs in whichever environment
 - Using business acumen to shift care closer to home or most appropriate setting
 - Thinking outside the box, break down barriers and find solutions
 - Meeting the wider outcomes of the NHS Framework to improve outcomes
 - Ensuring commitment to work with HEIs on accreditation and NMC registration
 - Ensuring services are comprehensive, equitable and sustainable
 - Making sure commissioners



The



The Community Children's Nursing Service

The unique role of the community children's nurse

- Providing leadership and case management
- Delivering nursing care and support to children, young people and families across the life course
- Assessing, planning, implementing and evaluating evidence based care interventions within the community setting
- Contributing to the assessment of health needs of children and monitor the effectiveness of safe care packages
- Working in partnership parents/carers and families to provide nursing care and support to meet the individual child's needs over a 24 hour period;
- Delivering nursing care to the defined delegated cases under the supervision of case manager (named nurse)
- Liaising with GPs and secondary care to reduce hospital admission and support early discharge
- Advocating for the child/young person to ensure their needs are safeguarded at all times
- Encouraging integration of the child/young person into a normal family life and supporting transition across the life course (0-19 years)
- Empowering children and families to manage care closer to home
 - Nursing specialist in the environment and care closer to home
 - Nursing care management throughout childhood
- Acting as a lead professional and key worker role
- Assessing risk



Utilising skills to work with and supporting partnership approaches to improve child outcomes

Skills and knowledge Providing leadership and support for the team

- Using the named nurse role to provide co-ordinated holistic, needs led, integrated package of care
- Supporting multi-agency working to deliver care to children 0-19 years of age
- Using expert knowledge and clinical nursing skills to support children and young people within community settings
- Assessing and managing clinical risk in the community setting
- Signposting and referring to ensure comprehensive care eg – public health and specialist clinical needs
- Empowering families to have confidence in caring for their sick children out of hospital (from maximum support to minimum support)
- Educating children, young people and families to promote independence and self-care
- Pushing boundaries; using skills and knowledge to problem solve
- Acting as a professional hub (bedrock), supporting and training other professionals in caring for the child and family
- Providing expert advice on facilitating discharge planning for children with long term conditions
- Enabling families to care for their dying child in place of their choice through expert symptom management, knowledge and skills
- Supporting families post-bereavement



Measuring impact and improving Child outcomes

Success measures

The Community Children's Nursing role contributes to the Children and Young People's Pledge.
<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/national-pledge-to-improve-children-s-health-and-reduce-child-deaths>

Our shared ambitions are that:

- Children, young people and their families will be at the heart of decision making, with the health outcomes that matter most to them taking priority
- Services, from pregnancy through to adolescence and beyond, will be high quality, evidence based and safe, delivered at the right time and in the right place, by a properly planned, educated and trained workforce
- Good mental and physical health and early interventions, including for children and young people with long term conditions, will be of equal importance to caring for those who become acutely unwell
- Services will be integrated and care will be coordinated around the individual, with an optimal experience of transition to adult services for those young people who require ongoing health and care in adult life
- There will be clear leadership, accountability and assurance and organisations will work in partnership for the benefit of children and young people.

The Community Children's Nurse has a vital role in maximising health and wellbeing, which includes:

- Improving the wider determinants of health
- Health improvement
- Health protection
- Healthcare and preventing premature mortality

Community children's Nurses contributing to healthy communities:

([NHS outcomes Framework](#))

Domain 1	Preventing children and young people dying prematurely through supporting cancer survival rates through supporting oncology nurse specialists . Also by supporting prevention of deaths from asthma, meningitis and pneumonia.
Domain 2	Enhancing quality of life for children and young people with Long Term Conditions through specialist nurses for asthma, diabetes and epilepsy and reducing admissions and supporting transition of care and creating care plans.
Domain 3	Helping children and young people recover from ill health or following injury e.g. reducing admissions and preventing serious illness of children with lower respiratory tract infections through the use of acute care pathways and advance nurse practitioner roles. This supports all the high volume conditions not requiring hospitalisation.
Domain 4	Ensuring children, young people and families have a positive experience of care e.g. via the NHS Friends and Family Test (due in 2015) and local experience of Children's Community Nursing services
Domain 5	Through having a community element to the safety thermometer. Having skills around reducing errors of medication as supporting parents and children and young people.

Delivering urgent, continuing and complex health care for children and young people: Making this happen within community setting and the action Community Children's Nursing Teams need to take the lead in these 6 priority areas;

Maximising health and wellbeing. Helping people to stay independent

- Empowering children , young people and families to manage health needs
- Utilising opportunistic and planned health promotion and health education interventions
- Adopting the principles of [Making Every Contact Count](#)
- Using technology, e.g. apps, tablets, texts, to maintain independence and enhance communication
- Empowering families and carers to care for their child at home
- Ensuring signposting and referral to relevant professionals and services

Delivering Care and Measuring Impact

- Ensuring meet local needs
- Using patient stories to illustrate satisfaction of patient journey
- Using evidence to illustrate impact and improve outcomes
- Linking to caseload management
- Demonstrating cost-effective outcomes e.g. early discharge/prevention of hospital admission
- Adapting [safety thermometer](#) for children and young people
- Utilising user feedback systems to measure impact e.g. [The NHS Friends and Family Test](#)

Working with people to provide a positive experience

- Being responsive and flexible to individual needs by using family centred approaches
- Ensuring staff are highly skilled and competent
- Strengthening communication between organisations, partners and multi-disciplinary teams
- Using appropriate ways to engage with service users to adapt and inform service delivery
- Using the community children's nursing service to support care throughout the 24hr period where appropriate

Supporting positive staff experience

- Ensuring exposure of nursing students during pre-registration programmes , developing robust career pathways
- Providing clear career pathways and a competency framework for staff
- Ensuring skill mix within team to extend knowledge and skills
- Support networking with other teams
- Ensuring succession planning e.g. pre-registration; leadership; executive level
- Supporting innovative approaches to promote community children's nursing as a career option e.g. rotation of posts and robust

Ensuring we have the right staff, with the right skills in the right place

- Developing competence, and ensuring education courses are fit for purpose
- Standardising competencies required for role and promoting work based learning
- Adapting to where the child needs the service – in and outside hospital
- Supporting new ways of working, including virtual ward
- Influencing HEIs and education commissioners to ensure the workforce can meet demands of children's needs
- Providing opportunities to ensure staff are up to date and use the best

Building and strengthening leadership

- Ensuring leadership at all levels within the team
- Developing leadership skills
- Creating opportunities for professional development and growth of staff
- Using reflective practice and action learning sets and supportive leadership practices