



June 1st, 2016

Healthy approach to starting school

Health professionals are aiming to ensure that young children are prepared for their transition to school.

South Tyneside NHS Foundation Trust's health visitors and school nurses will be at a special series of events being piloted in South Tyneside, Gateshead and Sunderland in June for four and five-year-olds starting school in September 2016.

Clinical Operational Manager Jane Middleton said: "Going to school for the first time is one of the most important events in the life of every child. Health visitors work with families to give pre-school age children the best possible start in life right from birth. When the child goes to school, the health visitors hand over the support for all families to the school nurses. The school nursing service works across education and health, providing a link between school, home and the community.

"At the events, which have been arranged in partnership with local Children's Centres, we will be available to complete a pre-school check and advise families on the transition from the health visiting service to the school nursing service and to answer any questions families may have. There will also be activities focusing on topics such as healthy eating and dental health."

Families have been invited to attend. Those who have not received an invitation should contact their health visitor.

ends

Pictured above: Some of South Tyneside NHS Foundation Trust's health visitors and school nurses who will be at the transition to school events, left to right, school nurses Emma Price and Jane Ramm, health visitor Julie Potts, school nurse Sue Wyllie and health visitors Melanie Dalton and Rachael Newby

Issued on behalf of South Tyneside NHS Foundation Trust by Kay Jordan

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