



Warwickshire Health Visitor Service

Countywide



What does the service offer?

The Warwickshire Health Visitor service aims to improve the health of children and families in the crucial first years of life.

They work with families and communities to improve access and experience of health services to improve health outcomes and reduce health inequalities. Health Visitors play a key role in delivering the Healthy Child Programme (0-5).

The team includes Community Nursery Nurses, Health Visitor Clerical Assistants, Children's Centre staff and some teams have Community Staff Nurses. They also work very closely with other agencies such as GPs, Midwives and School Nurses.

There are four levels of service:

- **Your Community (local issues):** Housing and local services and dealing with community issues.
- **Universal Services (offered to all):** Delivering the Healthy Child Programme to ensure a healthy start for children and family e.g. immunisations, health and development checks.
- **Universal Plus (support when needed):** Provide parents with specific help e.g. post-natal depression, breastfeeding, feeding issues, speech development, concerns regarding behaviour.
- **Universal Partnership Plus (support for families):** On-going support to deal with more complex issues over a period of time e.g. early support for disabilities, mental health issues, drug & alcohol related issues.

When children start school, the School Health and Wellbeing Service continues the delivery of the Health Child Programme (5-19).

Health Visitors are available at many sites across Warwickshire.

Recent Updates and good news:

The current contract with South Warwickshire Foundation to deliver this service has been extended by a further 18 months.

Work continues with the development of the Baby Steps programme to promote it to parents. Baby Steps is a perinatal educational programme for parents in the run up to the birth of their baby and afterwards. It's designed to help prepare people for becoming parents, not just for the birth itself.

Key fact:

72.1% of mothers in Warwickshire breastfed their babies in the first 48 hours after delivery (2014/15). This is significantly worse than the England average.

Service contact details:



www.cyp.swft.nhs.uk/health-visiting.aspx



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