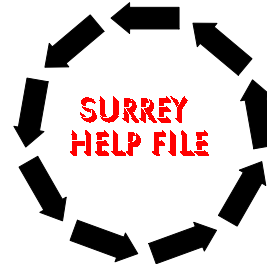


SECTION 1 - FACTSHEET 1

HEALTH PRIMARY CARE



Primary Health Care Team

The Primary Health Care Team consists of General Practitioners, Health Visitors, Community Nurses and Community Midwives. The GP is responsible for the health care of all his patients and will refer a patient for whatever specialist help may be required.

Health Visitors

Health Visitors are qualified nurses with additional postgraduate training, equipping them with the knowledge and expertise to work with families and groups in the Community. They are based either in GP Surgeries, Health Clinics or Health Centres. Health Visitors offer support and guidance in child rearing and parenting, particularly for infants and children under 5 years. They also support parents with children with disabilities, providing advice on care and facilitating any aids, benefits and support services that may be required.

Health Visitors do not work in isolation but work closely with GPs and other members of the Primary Health Care Team as well as working closely and in collaboration with other agencies, thus being able to offer and access a wide range of services.

Health Visitors also work closely with School Nurses in supporting the care of children with special needs in the school setting.

All children are invited to attend Child Health promotion and developmental assessment clinics provided by their GP, HV or Community Medical Officer. If there is any cause for anxiety, a referral is made by a GP for further investigation by a Consultant Paediatrician.

Mother's are invited to bring their children for protection against diphtheria, tetanus, pertussis (whooping cough), polio and haemophilus influenza B (HIB) at 3 months for a course of 3 monthly injections. Vaccination to protect children against measles, mumps and rubella (German Measles) is offered at 12-15 months.

Your Health Visitor will have information about local services.

Community Midwife

Specialises in preparation for pregnancy, assistance during pregnancy to maintain good health and to prepare for childbirth. The Midwife provides follow up care for the mother and baby both to the Maternity Unit and at home for the first 10 days before handing over care to the Health Visitor.