

Healthy Schools in Norfolk – an update

Many schools will be aware, that in line with current government policy a number of national programmes are being wound up in a move to encourage more locally driven and locally accountable initiatives. Although the national Healthy Schools Programme will cease to exist from April 2011, **Healthy Schools in Norfolk is still very much alive and well!** The current duty on schools to promote health and well-being remains in place as do the related elements of the Ofsted framework and the Healthy Schools team continues to advise and support schools.

Until April 2011 the local team is very keen to support the very small number of schools yet to achieve national Healthy School Status to complete the online audit and we do have a supply of plaques to distribute to successful schools. 82% of schools now have national status and the vast majority have very little to do to complete the process.

Beyond April 2011 we are planning a local approach that will:

- support schools to promote health and well-being effectively in line with good practice
- meet current and future Ofsted requirements
- contribute to addressing local health priorities for children and young people in Norfolk
- support schools to discharge their mandatory duties in terms of health and well-being.

This approach will follow that which schools have become used to comprising:

- an annual “check” against a range of criteria that will evidence a whole school approach to promoting health and well-being
- a focus on a school and/or local priority with an emphasis on demonstrating the outcomes and impact for children and young people.

We are in the process of drafting simple tools and processes to enable schools to demonstrate their progress and the impact of this work. Norfolk County Council is supporting the continuation of Healthy Schools and Drugs Education Advice but we are still waiting for confirmation of any additional funding from the two Primary Care Trusts in Norfolk.

For further information please contact:

Adele Godsmark
01603 221812
adele.godsmark@norfolk.nhs.uk