

August 2013

Dear Parent

YOU, YOUR CHILD AND THE SCHOOL-AGE NURSING SERVICE

I am writing to let you know about some exciting changes to the school-age nursing service in Cumbria.

A new school-age nursing service model has been developed nationally by the Department of Health and the Department of Education and will be phased in from September 2013, in Cumbria. The new model will make sure that all school-age children in Cumbria are offered a universal programme of preventative health care with additional care and support for those who need it.

As part of the changes, the school-age nursing service will increasingly be offered where and when it is needed –this could be at school or another venue. Children who are identified as needing extra support will receive more specialist school-age nursing services with greater links to other health and support services.

We feel that school age nurses are uniquely placed to support young people and our vision is that by putting the individual child and their family at the heart of the service it will have a positive impact on standards in all schools and improve the health and wellbeing of school aged children and young people in Cumbria. This approach is designed to help with:

- ✓ Behaviour of children and young people
- ✓ Emotional health and wellbeing
- ✓ Families who need extra support
- ✓ Development and wellbeing
- ✓ Academic progress and attainment
- ✓ Preparation and attendance at school

If you have any questions about the new school-age nursing service, please contact Cumbria's public health team on: 01228 226626.

Yours faithfully,

Dr Rebecca Wagstaff
Interim Director of Public Health for Cumbria