

HSC Executive: Briefing Document

Briefing Purpose

- Update HSC executive members of the aims and terms of reference of the national forum of Children and Young People Nurse Academics UK (CYPNAUK) and my external role as England Representative.
- Summary of the contribution and education of children's nurses to the health and wellbeing of children and young people in the UK.

Meeting Purpose scheduled for Thursday 30th March at 2pm

- Identify opportunities and challenges within HSC for the future development of a children's nursing workforce with the appropriate knowledge, values and skills to meet the specific needs of children and young people.

CHILDREN AND YOUNG PEOPLE NURSE ACADEMICS UK (CYPNAUK)



<http://www.cypnauk.org.uk/>

A national committee linking children's nursing academics across the four UK nations, providing a unified voice to lobby, empower and influence children and young people (CYP) nursing by; sharing good practice & innovation; influencing new standards; contributing to the evidence base for the CYP workforce and influencing/driving nurse education policy. Children's nurses are classified as those who nurse CYP across the 0-19 year spectrum.

Committee Aims:

- Represent and promote the education, research and practice development of children's nurses.
- Influence and respond to the UK child health agenda through well-informed debate, discussion and the dissemination of material that reflects our views on a range of issues.
- Act as a source of consultation and advice to children's nurses and to other's on matters of children's, education and research.
- To provide rapid and considered responses to the UK children and young people health agenda, including the development of position papers.
- To provide a means of sharing good practice and innovation.
- To collaborate and communicate with other stakeholders in promoting these aims.

Committee:

Debbie Fallon (Chair); **Maureen Harrison** (Vice Chair); **Katie McGhee** (England Rep); **Sonya Clarke** (NI Rep) ; **Donald Todd** (Scotland Rep); **Jane Davies** (Wales Rep); **Wendy Sinclair** (social media/communications)

Representative Role:

To ensure that the differing nursing, health and social care contexts are adequately accounted for in each of the debates, discussions and position papers and act as a local spokesperson on the forums behalf on issues specific to *England*. **The next meeting will be hosted on 22nd June 2017 by LSBU.**

Contribution of children's nurses to the health and wellbeing of CYP in the UK

The consequences to the health and prosperity of the nation from inaction in improving infant, child and young people's health are serious. A substantial number of risk factors for disease in adults are initiated in intrauterine life and infancy and amplified in childhood and young adult life e.g. prematurity, slow uterine growth, maternal diabetes and obesity are all risk factors for poor metabolic health in adult life and around 80% of overweight and obese children will become overweight and obese adults, reducing their lifespan and imposing a burden upon our health and social care services from the ravages of chronic non-communicable disease (RCPCH 2017).

The economic case for investment in children's nursing as a profession is powerful as it exerts a cost-effective, positive impact on the major physical and mental health challenges of the nation's children, young people and adults.

Qualified Children's Nurses in the UK:

- Contribute to the health and wellbeing of CYP from 0-19 years to secure the best possible physical and emotional health outcomes to CYP via family-centred care.
- Require knowledge of developmental anatomy, physiology, pathophysiology alongside emotional and social development specific to the 0-19 year spectrum.
- Require skills to apply knowledge to promote healthy physical and emotional development and meet the physical and emotional support needs of CYP in the context of varied clinical conditions including those with complex health needs and disabilities.
- Acknowledge significant inclusion of mental health conditions since; CYP experiencing long term conditions are twice as likely to develop emotional disorders; many mental health problems in adult life start by the age of 18 years and; 1 in 10 children require supportive treatment for mental health problems ranging from short term depression/anxiety to severe and persistent long term conditions.
- Require understanding of complex/dynamic relationships in which CYP grow, develop and interact with society since their work takes place in a diverse and ever changing social and political context and in collaboration with a multitude of other health and social care professionals.
- Deliver care in a variety of settings including; nurseries, schools, colleges and universities; hospitals, health centres and youth centres and in many varied places that CYP call home and places for those CYP without a home.
- Deliver, lead and manage care within a multi-disciplinary team environment in all settings, promoting and upholding the standards of the profession via education, research and evidence based practice.
- Recognise the public health agenda and work to promote health and foster healthy lifestyles in CYP, subsequently contributing to reducing the illness burden of adulthood.

The education of children's nurses in the UK

As academics involved in the provision of programmes designed to prepare the children's nursing workforce of the future, we aim to ensure that students undertaking a qualification to nurse CYP in all care settings are equipped with the appropriate knowledge, values and skills to deliver high quality care.

- The 1994 Clothier Report recommends the importance of ensuring that an appropriate number of qualified children's nurses are available each shift to ensure safety of CYP.
- A chronic shortage remains in all care settings including out of hours services.
- Approximately 25% of our population are under 19 years of age however only 5% of registered nurses are trained with a children's nursing qualification.
- A history of hard fought battles for registration and direct entry education for over a century.
- Over emphasis on adult orientated health and nursing within generic elements of nursing programmes (Glasper 2016).
- Children's Nursing is not a speciality but general care at a special age period (Glasper 2016).
- Many healthcare professionals caring for CYP are not adequately skilled. Some have training in adult healthcare only, whilst others do not have adequate training in CYP physical and mental health to enable them to undertake their work safely and effectively (Children and Young People's Health Outcomes Forum, 2012).
- **A key challenge is ensuring that the future 'core' nursing programme reflects the generic components of child health (Glasper 2016).**

References

Children and Young People's Health Outcome Forum (2012) Report of the Children and Young People's Health Outcome Forum [online] UK

https://www.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/216852/CYP-report.pdf Accessed 14.3.17

CYPNAUK (2016) Children and Young People Nurse Academics UK: Terms of Reference [online] UK

<http://www.cypnauk.org.uk/CYPNAUK%20Terms%20of%20Reference.pdf> Accessed 14.3.17

Glasper A (2016) Ensuring the integrity of children's nursing education *British Journal of Nursing* 25, 6, 342-343

RCPCH (2017) State of Child Health Report [online] UK <http://www.rcpch.ac.uk/state-of-child-health> Accessed 14.3.17