

Children and Young People's Keyworkers

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This new national training programme is being developed to provide a keyworker for all children and young people with a learning disability and autism, a commitment set out in the NHS Long Term Plan.

What is the Children and Young People's Keyworker programme?

The Children and Young People's keyworker programme is a four-year multi million pound investment by NHS England and NHS Improvement to provide keyworkers to support autistic children and young people and those with learning disabilities to leave mental health hospitals and access suitable support in communities. HEE is supporting the delivery of this programme by developing training for keyworkers. This will provide keyworkers with a common set of skills ensuring they can help both autistic children and young people and children and young people with learning disabilities who have the most complex care needs.

The training covers the key topics needed for staff working across health, education, and care systems to develop highly personalised packages of support. It will also help to keep any children and young people with learning disabilities and autism who are at risk of being admitted to hospital, to stay in the community and access personalised support to meet their needs.

What are the timescales?

NHS England and NHS Improvement will be rolling out these new keyworking services over the coming three years with full coverage of the service across England expected by 2024.

Health Education England has commissioned Pathways Associates, to co-develop a bespoke training package with young people and their families that will support the upskilling of the keyworkers to minimum standards. Work to develop this training will take place throughout the spring and the training will be made available on the e-Learning for Healthcare platform [2] during the summer.

How can you find out more?

For more information on this programme contact learning.disability@hee.nhs.uk [7]

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