

Joint Strategic Needs Assessment

Quarterly newsletter / summer edition



**Do you care passionately about improving the health and wellbeing of young children in the London Borough of Richmond upon Thames (LBRuT)?
Do you want to understand how to meet their needs?**

A child's Early Years (from birth to age five) are crucial in influencing foundations and habits relating to their health and wellbeing. The experiences that children have during these years (starting from the womb) can have life-long effects on a child's physical development and health, emotional wellbeing, learning and behaviour. There is clear evidence that exposure to factors such as poverty, unbalanced diets and un-stimulating or threatening home environments during the Early Years period all contribute to a child's wellbeing and to whether they are able to reach their developmental potential.

This quarter, we will be giving you an overview of what the Early Years JSNA says. In later editions, we will delve into more detail on other topic areas.

We would welcome your feedback on this newsletter. Please send your comments directly to jsna@richmond.gov.uk or to the Public Health team. We hope you enjoy the update.

Dr Dagmar Zeuner

Director of Public Health
London Borough of Richmond upon Thames

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JSNA

Early Years JSNA

The Early Years Needs Assessment was completed recently and provides recommendations to inform commissioning intentions and improvements in service delivery.

Breastfeeding

A detailed JSNA with recommendations for improving local support services was published in November 2011

Child Poverty

This was carried out to support the development of a Child Poverty Strategy for 2011-14 (March 2012)

Local Strategies

- Children and Young Peoples Plan 2013-2017
- Health and Wellbeing Strategy 2013-16
- Child Poverty Strategy 2011-14
- Parenting Strategy (currently in development)
- Approach to support Troubled Families (currently in development)
- Children's Emotional Wellbeing and Mental Health

Priorities

There has been a strong commitment by the Government to ensure that children receive the best possible start in life. Locally, there has been a strong commitment to ensure the delivery of effective and accessible support through both universal and targeted services. Universal services include Health Visiting, the Family Information Service, Children's Centres and clinical screening programmes. LBRuT also provides services for those children with more challenging and complex problems that may require more targeted support such as those with special educational needs, those who require specialised emotional or behavioural support and free childcare for vulnerable two-year-olds.

LBRuT has set out a number of priorities that support the needs of children within Early Years. One of the strategic aims within the Health & Wellbeing Strategy is to give children a good start.

The Children and Young People's Plan outlines a range of important priorities, including the following two outcomes that are specific to the Early Years:

- Parents and carers are supported to help their children develop and learn in their Early Years
- Families are supported to keep their children healthy during their Early Years and to protect them against avoidable disease and infection

Snapshots

The Early Years population

- There are an estimated 14,100 children under the age of five years living in Richmond borough
- They make up almost one third of all children in the borough and represent 7.4% of the total population
- The annual number of births in Richmond is 2,953. This is predicted to increase by 3.6% by 2021
- Over a third of mothers are over the age of 35 years, compared to 20% in London and 16% in England (2011)
- Over three quarters of those aged 0-4 are from white/white British ethnic groups, which is similar to the overall population
- Richmond borough has the lowest level of deprivation in London, but there are estimated to be 1,607 children aged 0-4 living in poverty

Healthy Environments

- Parental mental health problems and substance misuse can significantly impact on a child's health and wellbeing
- Around 10-15% of women may require support from mental health services during the postnatal period
- Local support services have been shown to have positive impacts on children affected by domestic violence
- The Multi Agency Risk Assessment Conference (MARAC) provides co-ordinated safety plans for victims of high risk domestic abuse
- In 2011, 116 cases involving children under the age of five were referred to, and discussed, at MARAC

Healthy Lifestyles

- Overall Richmond has a low prevalence of tooth decay, although one in five children have active untreated decay by the age of five
- Around 11% of children aged 5 are overweight and 6.5% are obese. This is lower than London and England
- There is currently no specific Tier 2 Community service for overweight or obese children in their Early Years
- Breastfeeding initiation is one of the highest in England. However at 6-8 weeks this drops off by 20%

Healthy Development

- The Health Visiting service leads on delivering the Government's Healthy Child Programme for age 0-4 that focuses on early intervention, prevention and health promotion
- Richmond has progressively improved immunisation coverage, but national targets are not currently being met
- Quarterly increase in MM1 at 2 years to 89% as at the end of 2012/13 (Q4). Quarterly increase in MMR2 at 5 years to 80% as at the end of 2012/13 (Q4). Nationally, there is an achievement to meet 95% herd immunity for both MMR1 and MMR2
- Around 1,000 children under the age of five in Richmond will have difficulties with speech, language and communication at any point
- Newborn Screening Programmes provide early detection of abnormalities that can affect development

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What next?

Throughout the year, short topic based reports are published on the Local Authority's website, enabling key messages to be shared with local partners.

www.richmond.gov.uk/jsna

The JSNA Early Years and all quarterly newsletters will be updated and available on the above website.

Look out for our quarterly newsletters and have a look at some of the resources we have highlighted below.

Further resources

National

HM Government, 2010. Maternity and Early Years, Making a good start to family life.

http://www.dh.gov.uk/en/Publicationsandstatistics/Publications/PublicationsPolicyAndGuidance/DH_114023

Department of Education, 2010. Every Child Matters – Change for Children

<https://www.education.gov.uk/publications/standard/publicationDetail/Page1/DfES/1081/2004>

Department of Health, 2009. Healthy Child Programme – pregnancy and the first five years of life.

http://www.dh.gov.uk/en/Publicationsandstatistics/Publications/PublicationsPolicyAndGuidance/DH_107563

Department of Education, 2012 Statutory Framework for the Early Years Foundation Stage: Setting the Standards for learning, development and care for children from birth to five.

<http://media.education.gov.uk/assets/files/pdf/e/eyfs%20statutory%20framework%20march%202012.pdf>

Local

Children and Young People's Plan 2009-2013:

http://www.richmond.gov.uk/children_and_young_peoples_plan_2009_2013

Contact us

If you have any topics or issues you think the JSNA team could analyse, or if you'd like to get involved in any of the work currently underway, please email us at jsna@richmond.gov.uk