

RCN Forum Annual Report 2022

Forum Name: Children and Young People Staying Healthy Forum

Introduction:

The main aim of the Forum is to promote positive physical, mental and emotional health and wellbeing in children and young people. The Forum is linked to a number of nursing communities and networks including:

- Adolescent Health / Transition
- CYP Mental Health (CAMHS)
- School Nurses (including independent and state school nurses)
- Safeguarding
- Looked After Children
- Health Visiting
- Criminal Justice System

The Committee together with support from a number of active members strive to represent the membership and promote the aims of the Forum in a number of ways. For example influencing current and future health and social policy in the UK and supporting members to develop their knowledge, skills and nursing practice.

Membership of the forum

Membership is consistent at over 4500 and is one of the highest of the CYP forums

Dr Gemma Trainor was elected as the new chair replacing Suzanne Watts, who also left the Forum Committee, but who supported the induction of the new chair.

Several other members terms of office came to an end in 2022. As a result there were 3 applications for membership of the Forum Committee, and after formal interview all 3 were appointed as new members. The Committee membership now stands at 6 (including the chair)

A new Professional Lead was appointed on a permanent contract

Reflections on 2022: (Outputs and outcomes)

FGG approval was given in 2021 for the publication of a new and updated guidance document on child and adolescent mental health to replace two existing RCN documents. On line publication is intended, but at the time of writing this has not been achieved.

The Chair represented RCN and nursing interest on the NICE Guidelines Development Committee on Self Harm attending several face to face and on-line meetings, leading research topic groups. The new NICE Guidelines were published on 7th September 2022 and

the chair will make a presentation about the guidelines at a national conference early in 2023.

The chair also presented alongside a young person on the Duty of Candour at an Inside Government Conference in April 2022.

The annual School Nurses conference scheduled for the summer of 2022 did not take place due to insufficient interest.

The Looked after Children's Conference took place in May 2022 and was well received and attended

Annual Congress was well attended by all the CYP Forums including our Forum membership – Melissa Beaumont from the Forum Committee and the Professional Lead were there throughout the Congress.

RCN Representation

The chair represents the RCN on NHS England Task and Finish Group on Eating Disorders and attended 4 on line meetings of the Group. She will be leading one or two topic sun groups. Recommendations for practice from the Group are expected in 2023

The chair is the lead nurse for CAMHS in the MindEd consortium

The Chair attended meetings of the NHS Health Education England, Clinical Education Reference Group (CEREG), established to develop resources to support staff helping children and young people with autism, learning disabilities, and mental health needs in acute settings.

Contribution to Consultations/Policy development

The Chair made a strong contribution to the new NICE Guidelines on Self Harm ensuring that that nursing aspects were properly and fully recognised in the new recommendations .

Plans for 2023:

To induct and support the 3 new members of the Forum. Embed the new Committee members into the new roles and responsibilities and consider appropriate national initiatives relevant to their expertise and experience.

Undertake a recruitment drive to increase Forum membership

To organise a Children's Forum Conference (1 or 2 days depending on uptake) covering both physical and mental health issues in young people

To continue to monitor publications conducted by the team

To organise another Looked after Children Conference

To continue to appoint link roles in the Forum

To involve a service user as an adviser/link person to all the various CYP Forums.

To submit proposals for a Fringe event at the 2023 RCN Congress and to organise a better and more effective presence at Congress

The Forum Committee will continue to meet virtually in a monthly basis.

Consideration may be given to change the Forum name to reflect more clearly the scope of the Forum activities and to appeal to a wider RCN audience

Date Prepared: 25 November 2022

By: Dr Gemma Trainor (Forum chair)