Health Services for Looked After
Children’s Services
Your Questions Answered

Why me?
All children who are looked after (that means social services have some responsibility for their care) must, by law, have a health assessment when they first become looked after, and then every year. If under the age of five, they must have a check every six months.

The assessments are done to make sure you are fit and healthy and are getting all the help you need to stay that way.

Who will do it?
Your first appointment will be with a paediatrician (a special doctor for young people) after this your annual assessment will be with a nurse who works in the community – this could be a looked after children’s nurse, a school nurse or a health visitor. Whoever you see, they won’t have a uniform.

Where will it be done?
For your first appointment you will be seen at the Edwin Lobo Unit or another Health Centre. For review assessments you may be seen at home, in school or at a health centre, this will depend on who is doing the assessment. The date, time and place will be discussed before the appointment is made.

What will happen at the assessment?
For your first appointment, some of the things the doctor may do are: listen to your heart, check your eyes and ears, take your blood pressure and record your growth. All this will be explained to you and nothing will be done without your permission.

Review assessments are the opportunity to make sure you remain healthy, check your growth and ensure actions from previous assessments have been completed.

Assessments are your chance to talk about any aspects of your health that you may be worried about. Feel free to ask any questions.
What happens after the assessment?

If the assessment shows that you need to see somebody else, or need to have some treatment, this will be organised.

If anything that is discussed needs to be shared with anybody e.g. your GP or a social worker, you will be told about this so that you can give your permission.

There will be a health plan written from the assessment that will say what needs to be done, who by and when it needs to be completed. This is sent to others involved in your care to make sure they complete the actions.

Space for additional notes
For further information about this service contact:

Looked After Children’s Health Team
Redgrave Children & Young People Centre
Redgrave Gardens
Luton LU3 3QN

Office open: 09:00 – 17:00 - Mon – Fri

Tel: 01582 345929/345930

Email: lookedafterchildren@nhs.net

If you require this information in a different format such as in large print or on audio tape, or in a different language please contact the service on the details above.

If you have any compliments about this service or suggestions for improvements, contact our Patient Advice and Liaison Service on 0300 131 1000 (charges may apply depending on your network) or email: ccs-tr.pals@nhs.net.

For free, confidential health advice and information 24 hours a day, 365 days a year please contact NHS 111.