NATIONAL INSTITUTE FOR HEALTH AND CLINICAL EXCELLENCE

PILOT SOCIAL CARE QUALITY STANDARD

FINAL SCOPE

1 Quality standard title

Looked-after children and young people: the health and wellbeing of looked-after children and young people

2 Social care quality standards

The National Institute for Health and Clinical Excellence (NICE) Quality Standards Programme was established in 2009 to manage the development of quality standards for healthcare. In 2011, NICE was also asked by the Department of Health to pilot the development of two quality standards for social care.

NICE pilot social care quality standards are small sets of specific, concise statements (up to a maximum of 15) and related measures that draw on existing guidance to act as markers of high-quality, cost-effective care or services. They are intended to support improvements in the quality of care and services.

The pilot social care quality standards address effectiveness, people's experience of using services, safety issues, equality and cost impact and are derived from the best available evidence, such as NICE guidance or other NICE accredited sources. This work is intended to help the social care sector focus on delivering the best possible outcomes for people who use services. This quality standard is also intended to help looked-after children and young people, and their families and carers, understand what services they should expect from their care provider.

The pilot social care quality standards are being produced collaboratively with social care organisations and the NHS, along with their partners, people who

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use services and carers. During development the Topic Expert Group (TEG), appointed to develop this quality standard, will decide which of the areas and activities described in this scope should be prioritised for the development of quality statements and measures. The draft quality statements and measures will be the subject of a public consultation. The content of the quality standard may change during the process and may differ after consultation with stakeholders.

The pilot social care quality standard development process is described in detail on the NICE website (see section 6, 'Further information').

3 This standard

The Department of Health has asked NICE to produce a pilot social care quality standard on the 'Health and wellbeing of looked-after children and young people'. The purpose of this quality standard is to support the health and wellbeing of looked-after children and young people. This scope has been drafted following the first meeting of the TEG, and refined following consideration of stakeholder consultation comments. It defines what the quality standard will (and will not) consider.

The areas that will be addressed by the TEG are described in the following sections.

3.1 Population

3.1.1 Groups that will be covered

a)   Looked-after children and young people from birth to 18 years.

b)   Children and young people who are covered by leaving care arrangements

3.1.2 Groups that will not be covered

a)   Children and young people cared for on a planned, temporary basis for short breaks or respite care in cases where the Children Act 1989 (section 20) does not apply.

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b)   Children and young people who have been looked after in the past and who are not covered by leaving care arrangements.

c)   Children and young people at risk of entering care, and their families.

3.2   Settings

a)   All settings applicable to looked-after children and young people, and children and young people covered by leaving care arrangements, including where they live.

3.3   Areas and activities

3.3.1   Areas and activities that will be considered

a)   Access to personal health information.

b)   Activities to promote health and wellbeing.

c)   Continuity of services.

d)   Encouragement to fulfil potential.

e)   Engagement and involvement of children and young people.

f)   Engagement and involvement of carers.

g)   Professional collaboration and multi-agency working.

h)   Quality and choice of placements.

i)   Support for leaving care and becoming independent.

j)   Support to meet complex emotional and physical needs.

k)   Support to understand personal identity and relationships.

l)   Training and support for carers.

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3.4 Economic aspects

The TEG will take into account evidence of effectiveness and cost effectiveness when prioritising the quality statements to be included in the pilot social care quality standard. The cost and commissioning impact of implementing the quality standard will also be assessed where possible.

4 Development sources

Relevant NICE guidance and other NICE accredited sources will be used to develop the pilot social care quality standard. Appendix 1 details relevant policy context and national reports and reviews that will be used to inform the development of the quality standard.

4.1 Key development sources (NICE guidance and NICE accredited sources)

Primary source
- Promoting the quality of life of looked-after children and young people. NICE public health guidance 28 and SCIE guide 40 (2010).

Other sources that may be used in the development of the quality standard
- Mental health service transitions for young people. SCIE guide 44 (2011).
- Strategies to prevent unintentional injuries among children and young people aged under 15. NICE public health guidance 29 (2010).
- Alcohol-use disorders – preventing the development of hazardous and harmful drinking. NICE public health guidance 24 (2010).
- Promoting young people's social and emotional wellbeing in secondary education. NICE public health guidance 20 (2009)
- When to suspect child maltreatment. NICE clinical guideline 89 (2009)
- Promoting children's social and emotional wellbeing in primary education. NICE public health guidance 12 (2008).
- Attention deficit hyperactivity disorder: diagnosis and management of ADHD in children, young people and adults. NICE clinical guideline 72 (2008).

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- [Behaviour change at population, community and individual levels](). NICE public health guidance 6 (2007).

- [Interventions to reduce substance misuse among vulnerable young people](). NICE public health guidance 4 (2007).

- [One to one interventions to reduce the transmission of sexually transmitted infections (STIs) including HIV, and to reduce the rate of under 18 conceptions, especially among vulnerable and at risk groups](). NICE public health guidance 3 (2007).

- [Depression in children and young people: identification and management in primary, community and secondary care](). NICE clinical guideline 28 (2005).

- [Promoting resilience in fostered children and young people](). SCIE guide 6 (2004)[1].

- [Fostering](). SCIE Guide 7 (2004)[1].

5   Status

This is the final scope for the pilot social care quality standard on Looked-after children and young people: the health and wellbeing of looked-after children and young people. This document is not NICE's final quality standard. The areas outlined in section 3.3 'Areas and activities' will be considered in the development of the draft quality statements and measures. These statements and measures will draw from recommendations in the sources outlined in the 'Development sources' listed in section 4. The draft quality standard will be published for consultation on the NICE website in August 2012.

6   Further information

Information on the pilot social care quality standard development process is provided in:

- '[Social care quality standards: Interim process guide for the pilot topics]()'.

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[1] NICE has reviewed the process used to develop this SCIE guide, which was produced prior to NICE accreditation. The process used to develop this guide was found to be in line with the process accredited for SCIE products produced after 2009.

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Information on the progress of 'Looked-after children and young people: the health and wellbeing of looked-after children and young people' (NICE social care quality standard) is also available from the NICE website.

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Appendix 1

Policy context

- Department of Health (2012) Healthy lives, healthy people: Improving outcomes and supporting transparency

- Department for Education (2011) Family and Friends Care: Statutory Guidance for Local Authorities DFE 2011

- Department for Education (2011) Boarding Schools: National Minimum Standards

- Department for Education (2011) Children's Homes – National Minimum Standards

- Department for Education (2011) Fostering Services – National Minimum Standards

- Department for Education (2011) Revised legal framework for looked after children from April 2011

- Department of Health (2011) NHS Outcomes Framework 2012-13

- House of Commons Education Committee (2011) Looked-after children: further government response to the third report from the Children, Schools and Families Committee, session 2008-09: fifth report of session 2010-2011

- Department for Children, Schools and Families (2010) Guidance on Looked After Children with Special Educational Needs placed out-of-authority

- Department for Children, Schools and Families (2010) IRO Handbook: Statutory guidance for independent reviewing officers and local authorities on their functions in relation to case management and review for looked after children

- Department for Children, Schools and Families (2010) Promoting the Educational Achievement of Looked After Children: Statutory Guidance for Local Authorities

- Department for Children, Schools and Families (2010) Provision of accommodation for 16 and 17 year old young people who may be homeless and/or require accommodation

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- Department for Children, Schools and Families (2010) Sufficiency: Statutory guidance on securing sufficient accommodation for looked after children
- Department for Children, Schools and Families (2010) Working Together to Safeguard Children: A guide to inter-agency working to safeguard and promote the welfare of children
- Department for Education (2010) Maltreated Children In The Looked After System: A Comparison Of Outcomes For Those Who Go Home And Those Who Do Not
- Department for Education (2010) The streamlined legal framework for looked after children: Implementation of care planning and placements regulations and guidance
- Department for Children, Schools and Families and Department of Health (2009) Statutory Guidance on Promoting the Health and Well-being of Looked After Children
- Department for Children, Schools and Families (2009) The role and responsibilities of the designated teacher for looked after children: Statutory guidance for school governing bodies
- Department of Health (2009) Promoting the health and wellbeing of looked after children - revised statutory guidance
- Department of Health (2009) Transforming community services: enabling new patterns of provision
- Department for Children, Schools and Families (2008) Care matters: time to deliver for children in care
- Department for Children, Schools and Families (2008) Every child matters outcomes framework
- Department of Health (2008) Children and young people in mind: the final report of the National CAMHS Review
- Department for Education and Skills (2007) Care matters: time for change
- Department of Health (2007) Promoting mental health for children held in secure settings: A framework for commissioning services
- UK Government (2007) The Consolidated 3rd and 4th Periodic Report to UN Committee on the Rights of the Child

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- Care Standards Act 2000
- Children Act 1989 (c.41)

National reports and reviews

- The Children's Society (2012) Childhood Report 2012 A review of our children's well-being
- Department for Education (2011) The Munro review of child protection: final report - A child-centred system
- Department for Education (2011) Outcomes for Children Looked After by Local Authorities in England, as at 31 March 2010
- Department for Education (2011) Prospectus: delivering intensive interventions for looked after children and those on the edge of care or custody and their families
- Department for Education (2011) Safeguarding children across services
- Local Government Improvement and Development (2011) 10 questions to ask if you're scrutinising services for looked after children
- Ofsted (2011) 100 days of care: Diary entries of children and young people in care, in residential education or receiving social care Reported by the Children's Rights Director for England
- Ofsted (2011) Children on the edge of care
- Ofsted (2011) Children's care monitor 2010: Children on the state of social care in England
- Ofsted (2011) Outstanding children's homes
- Audit Commission (2010) Education of looked after children toolkit
- Centre for Excellence and Outcomes in Children and Young People's Services (2010) Closing the gap in educational achievement and improving emotional resilience for children and young people with additional needs
- Centre for Excellence and Outcomes in Children and Young People's Services (2009-10) Vulnerable (looked after) children
- Children's Workforce Development Council (2010) Professional Practice Standards for Residential Child Care

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- Children's Workforce Development Council (2010) The relationships and supports that matter to children looked after (CLA) in long term voluntary accommodation (Children Act 1989, s. 20)

- Commissioning Support Programme (2010) Outcomes and Efficiency: Commissioning for Looked After Children

- National Audit Office (2010) Survey of youth offending teams (page 12)

- Ofsted (2010) An evaluation of the provision of mental health services for looked after young people over the age of 16 accommodated in residential settings

- Ofsted (2010) Before care: a report of children's views on entering care

- Ofsted (2010) Conducting safeguarding and looked after children inspections

- Ofsted (2010) Inspections of safeguarding and looked after children services: evaluation schedule and grade descriptors

- Ofsted (2010) Inspections of safeguarding and looked after children services: framework for inspection and guidance for local authorities and partners

- Ofsted (2010) Safeguarding and looked after children: national results for children's social work practitioners survey 2010

- Ofsted (2010) Safeguarding and looked after children: national third sector organisation survey 2010

- Royal College of Paediatrics and Child Health (2010) Safeguarding Children and Young people: roles and competences for health care staff

- Department for Children, Schools and Families (2009) Characteristics, Outcomes and Meanings of Three Types of Permanent Placement - Adoption by Strangers, Adoption by Carers and Long-term Foster Care

- Department for Children, Schools and Families (2009) Disproportionality in Child Welfare - The Prevalence of Black and Minority Ethnic Children within the 'Looked After' and 'Children in Need' Populations and on Child Protection Registers in England

- Department for Children, Schools and Families (2009) Improving the Educational Attainment of Children in Care (Looked after Children)

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- National Foundation for Educational Research (2009). Provision of Mental Health Services for Care Leavers: Transition to Adult Services (LGA Research Report)

- SCIE (2009) It's my story: helping care-experienced young people give effective media interviews. SCIE guide 26.

- Department for Children, Schools and Families (2008) Reunification of Looked-After Children with their Parents: Patterns, Interventions and Outcomes

- Ofsted (2008) Looked after children: good practice in schools

- SCIE (2008) Working with challenging and disruptive situations in residential child care: sharing effective practice. SCIE knowledge review 22

- SCIE (2008) Learning together to safeguard children: developing a multi-agency systems approach for case reviews. SCIE report 19

- SCIE (2008) Experiences of children and young people caring for a parent with a mental health problem. SCIE research briefing 24

- Department for Children, Schools and Families (2007) Determining the Optimum Supply of Children's Residential Care

- National Children's Bureau (2007) Grief matters for children - support for children and young people in public care experiencing bereavement

- National Children's Bureau (2007) Healthy care programme handbook

- National Treatment Agency for Substance Misuse (2007) The role of CAMHS and addiction psychiatry in adolescent substance misuse services

- Ofsted (2007) The right people for me: helping children do well in long-term foster care

- Transforming Conflict and National Centre of Excellence in Residential Child Care (2007) Restorative approaches in residential child care

- National Children's Bureau (2006) Working with parents whose children are looked after

- Thomas Coram Research Unit (2006) Advocacy for looked after children and children in need: achievements and challenges

- Joseph Rowntree Foundation (2005) Mentoring for young people leaving care

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- Joseph Rowntree Foundation (2005) [Resilience and young people leaving care](#)
- Joseph Rowntree Foundation (2005) [The experiences of young care leavers from different ethnic groups](#)
- National Audit Office (2005) [Improving school attendance in England](#)
- SCIE (2004) [Permanence Planning: Notes for Practitioners](#)
- SCIE (2004) [Fostering success: An exploration of the research literature in foster care.](#) SCIE knowledge review 5
- SCIE (2004) [Preventing teenage pregnancy in looked after children](#). SCIE research briefing 9
- SCIE (2003) [Innovative, tried and tested: a review of good practice in fostering](#). SCIE knowledge review 4
- SCIE (2003) [The adoption of looked after children](#). SCIE knowledge review 2
- SCIE (2003) [Effectiveness of childminding registration and its implications for private fostering](#). SCIE position paper 1
- SCIE (2003) [Working with families with alcohol, drug and mental health problems.](#) SCIE report 2.

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