

NATIONAL INSTITUTE FOR HEALTH AND CARE EXCELLENCE

QUALITY STANDARD TOPIC OVERVIEW

1 Quality standard title

Early years: promoting health and wellbeing in under 5s.

2 Introduction

2.1 *NICE quality standards*

NICE quality standards are a concise set of prioritised statements designed to drive measurable quality improvements within a particular area of health or care.

The standards are derived from high-quality guidance, such as that from NICE or [accredited](#) by NICE. They are developed independently by NICE, in collaboration with health, public health and social care practitioners, their partners and service users. Information on priority areas, people's experience of using services, safety issues, equality and cost impact are considered during the development process.

NICE quality standards are central to supporting the Government's vision for a health and social care system that is focused on delivering the best possible outcomes for people who use services, as detailed in the [Health and Social Care Act \(2012\)](#).

The quality standard development process is described in detail on the [NICE website](#).

2.2 *This topic overview*

This topic overview describes core elements of the quality standard. These include the population and topic to be covered, key source guidance to be used to underpin potential quality statements, any related quality standards,

published current practice information, and national or routine indicators and performance measures.

If the source guidance is not NICE guidance, it should meet the minimum quality criteria defined in NICE's [accreditation programme](#).

3 This quality standard

This quality standard is expected to publish in August 2016.

3.1 Population and topic to be covered

This quality standard will cover supporting the health, and social and emotional wellbeing of children aged under 5 years, through home visiting, childcare and early education. It will include vulnerable children who have or are at risk of health, social and emotional problems, and who need additional support. It will not cover the clinical treatment of emotional and behavioural difficulties or mental health conditions, or the role of child protection services.

3.2 Key development sources (NICE and NICE-accredited sources)

Primary source

- [Social and emotional wellbeing: early years](#) (2012) NICE guideline PH40

Other sources that may be used

- [Pregnancy and complex social factors: A model for service provision for pregnant women with complex social factors](#) (2010) NICE guideline CG110
- [When to suspect child maltreatment](#) (2009) NICE guideline CG89

Key policy documents, reports and national audits

Relevant policy documents, reports and national audits will be used to inform the development of the quality standard.

- Department for Education (2015) [Promoting the health and wellbeing of looked-after children](#)

- Department for Education (2015) [Study of early education and development: survey of families](#)
- Department of Health (2015) [Health visitor and 0 to 5 transfer programme: case studies](#)
- NHS England (2015) [Safeguarding vulnerable people in the NHS: accountability and assurance framework](#)
- Ofsted (2015) [Children in need and child protection: quality of early help and social work assessments](#)
- Ofsted (2015) [Inspecting safeguarding in early years, education and skills from September 2015](#)
- Public Health England (2015) [Healthy child programme: rapid review to update evidence](#)
- Department for Education (2014) [Early years \(under 5s\) foundation stage framework \(EYFS\)](#)
- Department of Health (2014) [Improving children and young people's health](#)
- Department of Health (2014) [Troubled families: supporting health needs](#)
- NHS England (2014) [National health visiting service specification 2015/16](#)
- Public Health England (2014) [Guide to the early years profiles](#)
- Department for Education (2013) [Early years outcomes](#)
- Department of Health (2013) [Chief Medical Officer's annual report 2012: our children deserve better: prevention pays](#)
- Department of Health (2013) [Family nurse workforce: a study for the FNP national unit report](#)
- Department of Health (2012) [Recommendations to improve health of children and young people](#)
- Cabinet Office (2011) [Early intervention: smart investment, massive savings](#)
- Department for Education (2011) [The early years: foundations for life, health and learning - Tickell review](#)
- Department for Work and Pensions (2011) [Early intervention: the next steps](#)

3.3 Related NICE quality standards

Published

- [Postnatal care](#) (2013) NICE quality standard 37
- [The health and wellbeing of looked-after children and young people](#) (2013) NICE quality standard 31

In development

- [Antenatal and postnatal mental health](#). Publication date to be confirmed
- [Domestic violence](#). Publication expected February 2016

Future quality standards

This quality standard will be developed in the context of all quality standards referred to NICE, including the following quality standards scheduled for future development:

- Children's attachment
- Child abuse and neglect
- Developmental follow up of preterm babies
- Failure to thrive
- Mental wellbeing: life course, settings and subgroups
- Oral health promotion in the community
- School-based interventions: health promotion and mental well-being.

The full list of quality standard topics referred to NICE is available from the [quality standard topic library](#) on the NICE website.

4 Existing indicators

- None identified.

5 Further information

See the NICE website for more information about [NICE quality standards](#) and the [progress of this quality standard](#).