



## West Yorkshire & Harrogate Health and Care Partnership Children, Young People and Families Epilepsy Group

### West Yorkshire & Harrogate Health and Care Partnership (WYH HCP)

WYH HCP<sup>1</sup> is one of the most advanced integrated care systems (ICS) in England. It brings together all health and care organisations in our six Places: Bradford District and Craven<sup>2</sup>, Calderdale, Harrogate, Kirklees, Leeds and Wakefield. It is not a new organisation, but a new way of working to meet the diverse needs of our 2.7 million people living in our area of which 23% (570,000) are children and young people.

Building on local plans in our 6 Places, we have a shared commitment and a simple goal; we want everyone in West Yorkshire and Harrogate to have a great start in life, and the support they need to stay healthy and live longer. We are committed to tackling health inequalities and to improving the lives of the poorest fastest. This can be seen through our [vision and 10 of our Big Ambitions](#) and in being one of the few ICSs that has a Children, Young People and Families Programme. By working together we are able to add value and improve the health and wellbeing for children and young people for current and future generations – this means applying principles of subsidiarity and only working together at a WYH level if it meets one of our ‘tests’:

- Working at scale to ensure the best possible health outcomes for people
- Sharing good practice across the Partnership
- Working together to tackle complex (or ‘wicked’) issues

### WYH Children, Young People and Families Programme (CYPF)

We have a shared ambition, vision and approach to our Children, Young People and Families Programme:

**Ambition:** To close the gap in health and wellbeing outcomes for all children and young people across West Yorkshire and Harrogate, no matter where they were born, live and go to school.

**Vision:** All children and young people will have the best start in life and the support and healthcare needed to enable them to be safe from harm and to enjoy healthy lifestyles, to do well in learning and have skills for life.

**Approach:** The voice of the child & young person will be at the heart of everything we do asking one question – *What is it like being a child growing up in West Yorkshire & Harrogate and how do we make it better?*

The Programme is led by the CYPF Board, which is responsible for delivery of its priorities:

- Best Start
- Healthy Weight, Nutrition and Food Resilience
- Adversity, Trauma & Resilience
- Children’s Healthcare in the Community
- Complex Needs & SEND
- Long Term Conditions

Each of the above priority areas have a dedicated steering group (as well as task & finish groups as needed) to drive delivery and are accountable to the CYPF Board. Each priority focuses on intervening early in the life of a problem and making a difference to the most vulnerable children, young people and families.

<sup>1</sup> For more information, please visit <https://www.wyhpartnership.co.uk>

<sup>2</sup> Whilst Craven is organisationally aligned with the NHS in Bradford, it is a distinctive place in its own right, forming part of North Yorkshire.



## WYH CYPF Epilepsy Group

As part of our Long Term Conditions priority we have a dedicated CYPF Epilepsy Group (in addition to Diabetes and Asthma). It is:

- **Chaired** by Dr Fiona Campbell who leads the WYH CYPF Long Term Conditions priority to maximise connections across our Long Term Conditions work.
- Given **programme support** through the WYH CYPF Programme Team.
- Attended by representatives from each of the 6 Places making up WYH with its **membership** including Consultant Paediatricians and Nurses specialising in Epilepsy.
- Strong relationships with the **Yorkshire Paediatric Epilepsy Network**.

## What we will do

CYPF Epilepsy Group has agreed a shared **ambition** that:

“Children & young people will receive a consistent offer with **improved access to Psychology Support** and **Transition Services** and using learning from the **Epilepsy 12 Audit** and the national **Epilepsy Quality Improvement Programme** to drive improvements.”

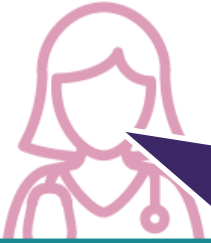
## How we are adding value to Place

CYPF Epilepsy Group has agreed a set of key priorities to drive their work programme since it was first established in July 2020 keeping to our principles of subsidiarity and meeting one or more of our WYH level ‘tests’. These include:

1. **Improving Access to Psychology Support:** Led by Leeds Teaching Hospitals Trusts’ Head of Department of Clinical and Health Psychology Consultant, funding was secured to appoint a post to explore how access to Psychology Support could be improved across WYH.
2. **Developing a WYH CYPF First Year of Care Pathway for Epilepsy:** A draft version is in development with the aim of improving consistency and set minimum standards across WYH.
3. **Developing a shared WYH approach to CYPF SUDEP (Sudden Unexpected Death in Epilepsy)**
4. **Exploring technologies** to improve quality of life for patients and staff across WYH using economies of scale to improve value.
5. **Empowering parents, children and young people representation and voice** in epilepsy services including:
  - Co-producing a public facing version of the WYH CYPF First Year of Care Pathway for Epilepsy with children, young people and families.
  - Developing a WYH information booklet on Epilepsy Teams.
  - Engaging with schools using learning from WYH Asthma Friendly Schools approach
6. Using the **Epilepsy 12 Audit** and **Epilepsy Quality Improvement Programme** to drive improvement on shared areas.
7. **Improving Transitions** using learning from WYH CYPF Diabetes Group.



## What members value about the WYH CYPF Epilepsy Group



"I think having a platform to share good practice is important for the care of our patients and striving for the best possible care for our patients is key. It creates the space for focused discussions and this will lead to improvements in quality of care for children, young people and families. It allows time to have these discussions that I otherwise wouldn't be able to prioritise with busy caseloads."

*(Claire Grattrick, Specialist Epilepsy Nurse, Mid Yorkshire Hospitals NHS)*

"We have the space to:

- Share issues that we are facing in each service and develop ideas about how to address them.
- Develop shared guidelines and consistency of approaches.
- Give impetus to develop our Epilepsy Service that may otherwise be lacking.
- Develop relationships and improve communications between paediatricians with a specialist interest that we otherwise would rarely be able to."

*(Ian Cannings, Consultant Paediatrician, Harrogate and District NHS Foundation Trust)*



"There are plenty of benefits from the WYH CYPF Epilepsy Group. It helps to see how practices vary around the region, makes it easier to share guidelines, good practice, etc. In particular, the level of support and how time is recognised in the job plan."

*(Matt Taylor, Consultant Paediatrician, Calderdale & Huddersfield NHS Foundation Trust)*

"I see lots of benefit including:

- Developing a common approach to first year care.
- Sharing experiences and problems.
- Having common guidelines about management & transition.
- Being empowered to work together and challenge ourselves to provide the best possible service for children with Epilepsy.
- Collaboration on the national audit.

*(Pronab Bala, Consultant Paediatrician, Airedale NHS Foundation Trust)*



"It has been a great experience creating the space for peer support with:

- Analysis of Epilepsy 12 results.
- Focusing on Psychology Support.
- Sharing information & best practice.
- Updates from external speakers and new technology developments."

*(Fraser Scott, Consultant Paediatrician, Mid Yorkshire Hospitals NHS Trust)*



"It benefits my practice as a children's epilepsy nurse because it enables bench marking of best practice and efficient ways to implement this and new technology in epilepsy care to be showcased."

*(Ruth McNulty, Paediatric Epilepsy Clinical Nurse Specialist, Bradford Teaching Hospitals NHS Foundation Trust)*

### For more information please contact:

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