Children and Young People’s Autism Service

Introduction
Welcome to the first weekly stakeholder update for the Children and Young People’s Autism Service.

This is the interim autism service supporting children, young people and their families in south Staffordshire that has been launched by Midlands Partnership NHS Foundation Trust (MPFT).

The Trust was recently confirmed by the Clinical Commissioning Groups (CCGs) serving south Staffordshire as the interim host provider of autism services in the area.

The service will support families until the formal procurement process is completed by the CCGs and a new contract awarded for autism services in the south of the county.

Transition of service
We have been working with the previous provider, Midlands Psychology, to transfer records for all children and young people who they have identified as waiting for an assessment or intervention or who are midway through an assessment or intervention.

On receipt of these care records we will be undertaking a rapid review of every care record by an MPFT clinician to identify next steps for each patient.

We will be writing to all patients transferred to us to confirm they have been transferred to us and to outline next steps.

Frequently Asked Questions
We have produced a frequently asked questions (FAQs) guide to provide more information both to current and new users of the service. This has been added to our Children and Young People’s Autism Service’s web page at www.mpft.nhs.uk/services/children-and-young-people-autism-service.

A direct link to the FAQs document can be found by clicking here.

Should a parent or carer have a specific question relating to the care of their child, we ask that they email the service at cypautismservice@mpft.nhs.uk. For more general queries or concerns please contact PALS by:

Email: palsandexperience@mpft.nhs.uk
Telephone: 01785 783026
Website form: www.mpft.nhs.uk/service-users-carers/complaints-concerns-and-compliments
Referrals
Referrals into the service need to be made by a professional who has met with the child and family. The referral form can be found on the Children and Young People’s Autism Service’s web page at www.mpft.nhs.uk/services/children-and-young-people-autism-service. Once completed, referrals should be forwarded to cypautismservice@mpft.nhs.uk.

If an assessment is appropriate, the young person will receive a face-to-face assessment to help the practitioner understand the current difficulties.

Once the team has completed their assessment, they will talk through the options available, so that together we can plan and agree the best support.

Should a referral not be deemed to be appropriate, practitioners may contact referrers for more information, or will signpost the family/young person to other services.

Contacting the service
The service can be accessed by calling 0300 303 0691 between the hours of 9am-5pm, Monday to Friday (excluding Bank Holidays). They can also be emailed at cypautismservice@mpft.nhs.uk.

The Children and Young People’s Autism Service’s web page also contains information should urgent help be required, alongside contact details for a number of other useful services and organisations.

Claire Bailey, Managing Director of MPFT’s Children and Families Care Group said: “We fully recognise this will be an uncertain time for the children, young people and their families who are users of this service.

“Their patience is very much appreciated while we complete the safe transfer of patient records and we will be in contact with families as soon as possible. We are absolutely committed to providing quality care and look forward to working with the children and families of south Staffordshire.”

More information about the service can be found by visiting www.mpft.nhs.uk/services/children-and-young-people-autism-service.