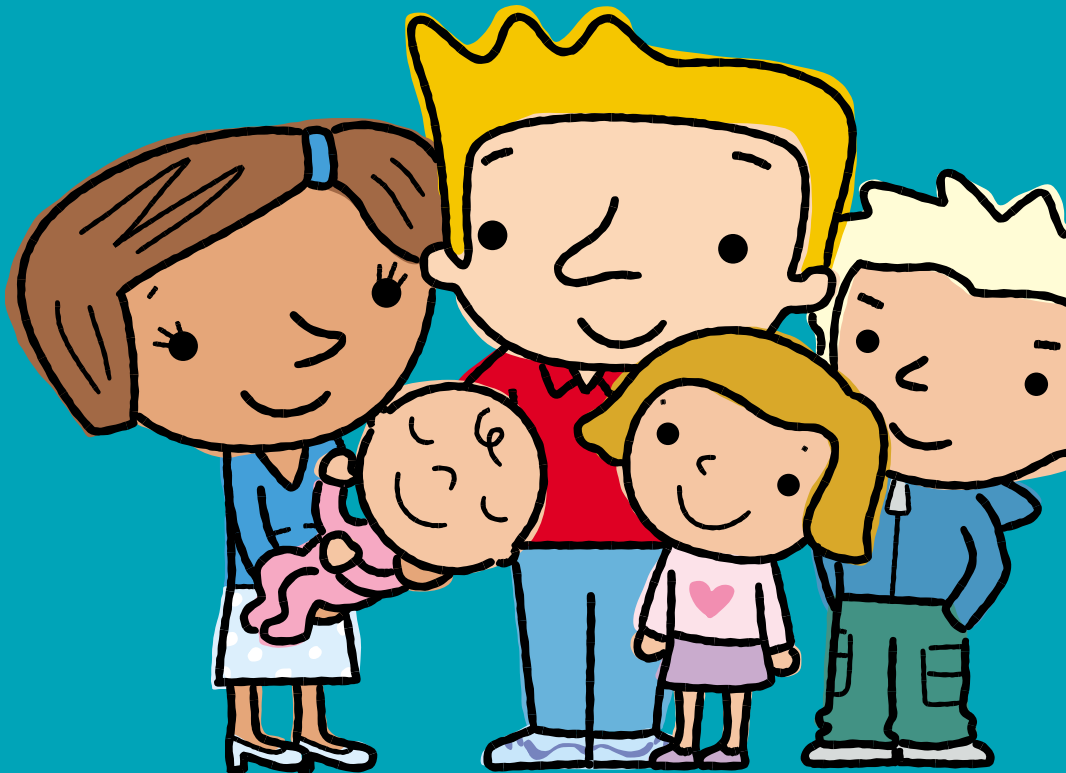


*The National Service Framework for
Children, Young People and Maternity Services:*

Parents' Easy Read Version



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Young People and Maternity Services:*

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Who will this National Service Framework help?

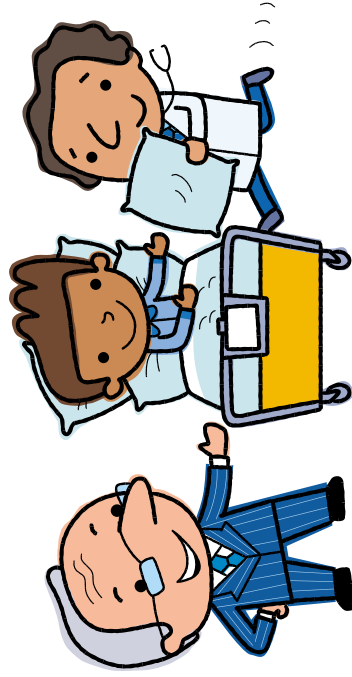
This National Service Framework will help these people

If you are a parent or a carer or a pregnant woman or her partner; or a child and young person, then this National Service Framework will help you.



What is a National Service Framework?

A National Service Framework is something written by the Government. It tells people like doctors and social workers to give you and your child the best care.



The Government writes a National Service Framework for people working in the NHS, social services, schools and colleges. It tells these people what they must do and how they must do their job, to give the best possible care for you and your child. This will make the NHS, social services, schools and colleges better for you and your child.

Good care wherever you live and whoever you are

The National Service Framework says that you must be able to get the same good support as a parent and the same care for your child wherever you live and whoever you are.



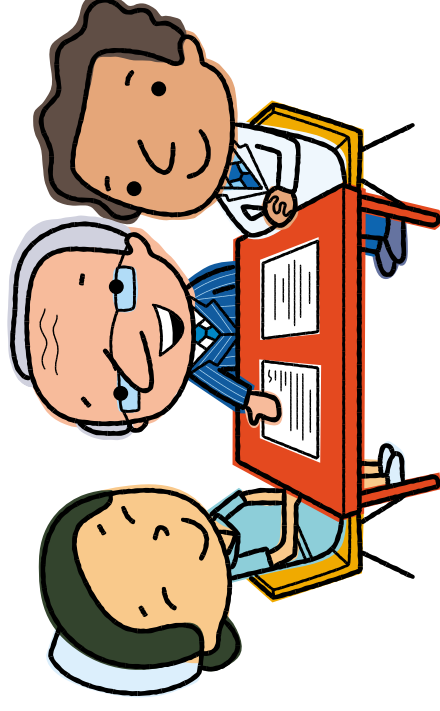
There have been five National Service Frameworks. This one is the biggest. It is about the NHS, social services and some things about schools and colleges. It is for babies, young children, school-age children teenagers and women who are going to have babies.

Everyone working together to help you

The people working in the NHS, social services and some schools and colleges have to change the way they work. They have to plan to do things together and give really good care.

When they are working this way, then you will find that they are:

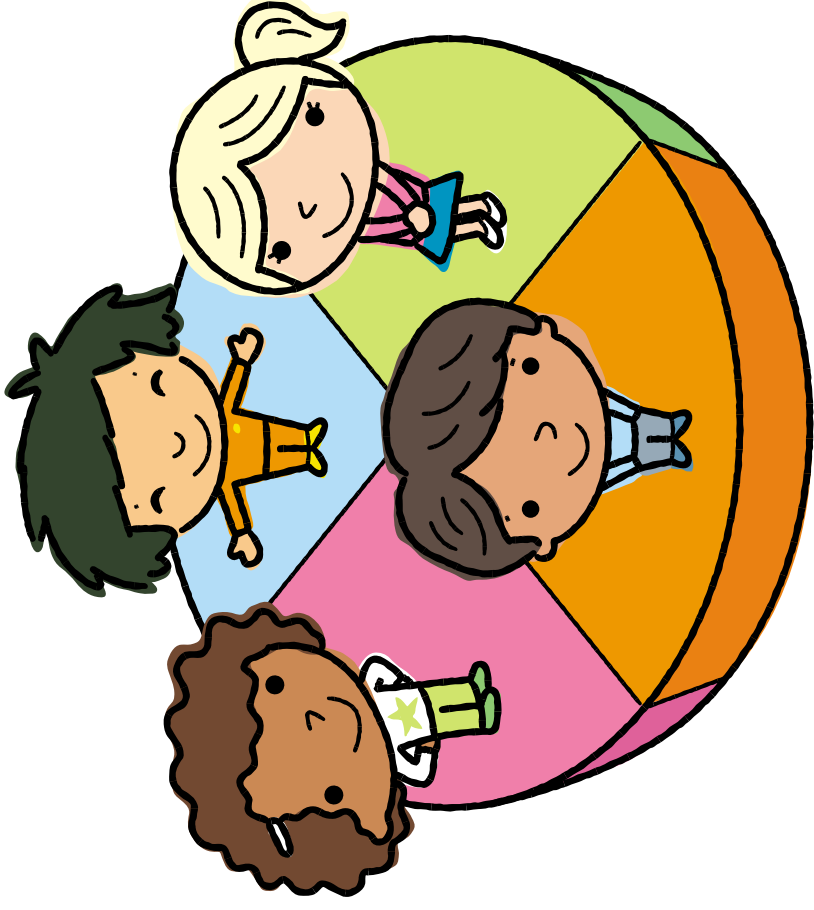
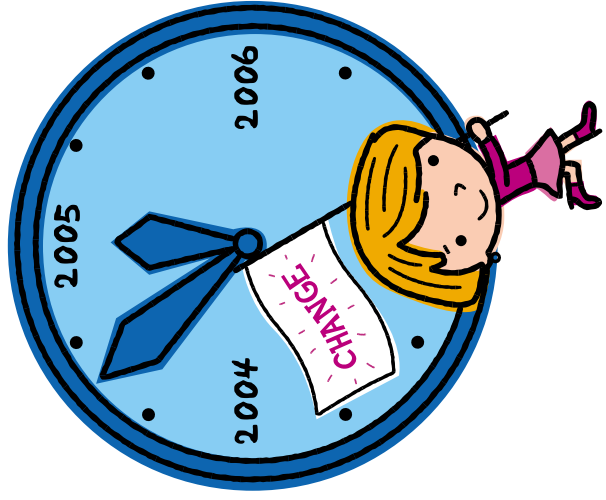
- Quicker and easier for you to use
- Good at telling you everything you need to know about what help your child needs and how to get it
- Better at working together so that you do not have to keep telling different people about yourself and your child
- Better at helping you decide what care you want for your child, or support you need for yourself



- Better at helping you to have a child who is healthy and happy, and who does well in their lives
- Good at protecting your child and other children, and keeping them safe
- Good at helping you look after your child when they get ill, and getting them better quickly
- Better at helping you choose how and where you have your baby
- More like you and your child say you want.

10 years for all these changes to happen

Some of these changes will start to happen soon. In some services the Government knows it will take a long time – up to 10 years – for people to change the way they do things and do all the things the National Service Framework wants them to do.



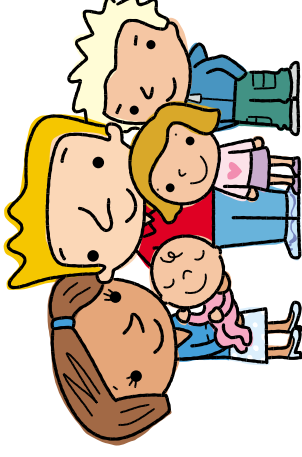
What's in this National Service Framework?

This National Service Framework is in three parts.

Best care for all children and their families

The first part of the National Service Framework is about services used by all children and their families. It tells people working in these services what they must do to provide best care for them. It tells them how to:

- Help you and your child to be healthy
- Help you to find out quickly what help your child needs and to give you the right help when you need it
- Help you to look after your children the best way possible
- Make sure that they ask you what you want



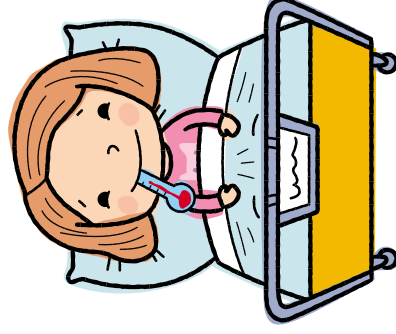
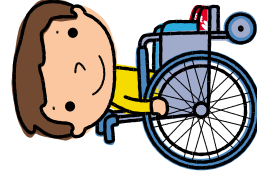
- Make sure that you feel staff listen to what you say and look after you. Then you will feel good about asking for help
- Help your child to look after themselves and be healthy. Then they will be able to be independent when they grow up
- Protect all children and young people from harm

People working in services used by disabled children, sick children and children in hospitals must know all about the things in Part 1. So must people working in services to help pregnant women and their partners.

Extra care for disabled children, sick children and children in hospital

Part 2 is written for people caring for children who are sick, children who need to take medicine or need to go to hospital. It is for people looking after disabled children or children who have an illness that does not get better. It is for people who help children who:

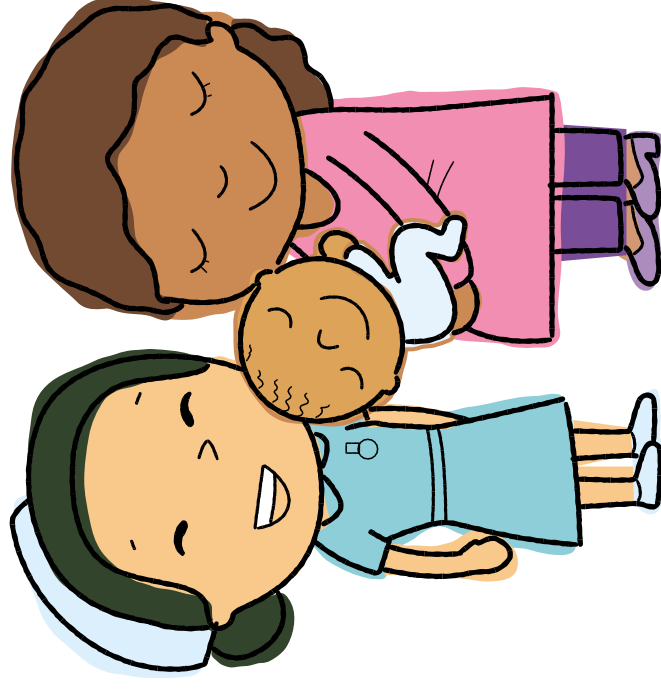
- feel sad all the time
- are scared or angry
- take drugs
- drink too much
- don't eat enough
- might want to harm themselves.



We call these children with a mental health problem.

Best care for pregnant women and their babies

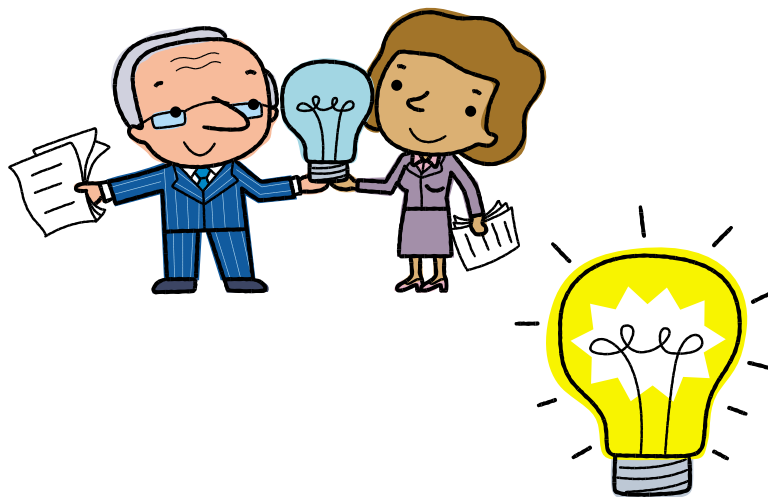
Part 3 is for people working in services helping pregnant women and their partners.



How will the NHS and the local council make this National Service Framework happen?

What you think can make a difference

They will look at the services they have now to help and care for your child, and they will ask you and other people who live in your area what you think. Then they will decide what needs to be changed so that in 10 years' time they will be doing all the things this National Service Framework is telling them to do.





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