

Reference: FOI.ICB-2526/119

Subject: ICB-Commissioned Clinical Nursing Services in Educational Settings

I can confirm that the ICB does hold some of the information requested; please see responses below:

QUESTION	RESPONSE
Under section 3 (1) of the NHS Act 2006, ICBs have a duty to commission nursing services, which includes the clinical nursing services that children and young people may require in their educational settings. These clinical services are separate and distinct from the local authorities' public health school nursing offer. Therefore, I would be grateful if you could answer the following:	
<p>1. Does the ICB commission a clinical school nursing service(s) that covers universal, targeted and specialist clinical nursing care for its population of children and young people in their state-funded educational setting? Please respond separately for:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) mainstream schools b) special schools c) alternative provision 	<p>a. The NHS Bristol, North Somerset and South Gloucestershire Integrated Care Board (BNSSG ICB) Children's Community Health Partnership contract includes the School Nursing Service, which the enquirer has identified as being part of Local Authorities' overarching Public Health Nursing provision.</p> <p>BNSSG ICB does not commission a non-Public Health School Nursing Service. Healthcare needs in education settings may be met through the Community Paediatric Service, Lifetime Service and Therapy Services (Physiotherapy, Occupational Therapy, Speech and Language Therapy), dependant on the needs of the child or young person. These services are provided by Sirona care and health CiC through the BNSSG Children's Community Health Partnership contract.</p>

	<p>Further information on each service is available here: https://sirona-cic.org.uk/children-services/</p> <p>Local Authorities are responsible for the commissioning of enhanced therapies in education settings, where a child or young person's needs identified through an Educational Health Care Plan (EHCP) assessment exceed the provision from universal therapy services (core therapy offer) commissioned by the NHS.</p> <p>Where delegated by a regulated healthcare professional, healthcare activities may be provided by a personal assistant or care worker. This is applicable to education settings, where a healthcare activity required by a child or young person while they are attending an education setting may be delegated, supported by training and a Health Care Plan.</p> <p>b. Please see response to 1.a. c. Please see response to 1.a.</p>
<p>2. If yes to any or all of Q1 a-c,</p> <p>a) Does the ICB-commissioned nursing service deliver all clinical nursing procedures in the educational setting, such as administering prescription medicines (inc. controlled drugs) and undertaking nursing procedures such as enteral feeding, suctioning and intermittent catheterisation? (For information, see Nursing and Midwifery Council - Standards of proficiency for</p>	<p>N/A</p>

<p>registered nurses, Annexe B Nursing Procedures pg. 36 - 44.)</p> <p>b) If no to 2a), what clinical nursing care is excluded from the ICB-commissioned nursing service(s)?</p>	
<p>3. If no to any or all Q1 a-c, what is the ICB's commissioning arrangement to ensure that children and young people have access to the clinical nursing support they need in their educational setting? Please respond separately for:</p> <p>a) mainstream schools b) special schools c) alternative provision</p>	<p>Please see response to 1.a.</p>
<p>4. What systems and processes are in place to ensure that the ICB commissions clinical nursing services that reflect and respond to the changing needs of the children and young people in educational settings in your area? Please respond separately for:</p> <p>a) mainstream schools b) special schools c) alternative provision</p>	<p>a. BNSSG ICB meets monthly with Sirona care and Health CiC to review the performance and delivery of services. This includes discussion of Key Performance Indicators (KPIs), service developments, challenges and management of emerging risks. Data and other information on service delivery and patient experiences, in conjunction with broader population health data, is used to inform understanding of population need and whether existing services are able to meet current and future need.</p> <p>This feeds into BNSSG ICB's annual business planning cycle and refresh of the BNSSG ICS Joint Forward Plan (https://bnssghealthiertogether.org.uk/about-us/our-</p>

	<p>strategy/joint-forward-plan/). The information is also utilised in ongoing evaluation of service impact and the commissioning of new or existing services (as part of the 'commissioning cycle').</p> <p>The monthly contract review meeting with Sirona is part of the ICB's wider governance structure for improving the lives of children and young people, which takes a system partnership approach across BNSSG; including Local Authorities, system providers and the Voluntary Care Sector.</p> <p>b. Please see response to 4.a. c. Please see response to 4.a.</p>
<p>5. Where the ICB does NOT commission a provider to deliver clinical nursing care (Q2b/Q3) and other local arrangements have been made, what systems and processes are in place to assure the quality, i.e. safety and effectiveness of the alternative arrangements? e.g. contractual KPIs, performance management systems and incident management processes. Please respond separately for:</p> <p>a) mainstream schools b) special schools c) alternative provision</p>	<p>The ICB does provide clinical nursing care for children and young people. Please see response to Q1 and Q4.</p>

The information provided in this response is accurate as of 18 August 2025 and has been approved for release by Helena Fuller, Deputy Director of Business, Strategy and Planning for NHS Bristol, North Somerset and South Gloucestershire ICB.