West Yorkshire Keyworker Service

Information for professionals

The Key Working Function is part of the NHS England Long Term Plan that by 2023/24, children and young people with a learning disability, autism or both with the most complex needs will have a designated Keyworker. The initial phase of this work 2021-2023 is focussed on young people who are inpatients or at risk of being admitted to hospital.

The service is now 'live' and supports the following group of young people:

- Autistic young people or young people with a learning disability (or both) aged up to 25 years
- Who are currently in hospital or at risk of Tier 4 admission
- On the Dynamic Support Register / Community Support Record and at the 'red' level and at crisis point.
- From Bradford, Calderdale, Kirklees, Leeds or Wakefield.

The Keyworker Functions are:

- To prevent and/or reduce hospital admissions
- To contribute to LAEP/CETR processes including oversight and implementation of recommendations
- Developing a cross-system function, with ability to build relationships and access resources from across the system
- Ensuring an appropriate level of provision is in place and accessible to the children and young people who need it, when they need it
- Embedding key working to enable families to manage crises and support community living

To find out what this means in practice for young people in West Yorkshire please contact sylvia.shatwell@barnardos.org.uk

