



PRESS RELEASE (final)

8/2005-03-01

01/03/2005

Major new developments in nursing for children and young people

Next week in Cardiff, the Nursing & Midwifery Council (NMC) will be involving children and parents in a project to help establish new standards for nursing of children and young people.

It will be the first of four focus groups to be held across the UK, each made up of a combination of children, young people, family members, carers, practitioners and employers. They will meet in relaxed settings where their expectations and concerns can be openly discussed, then recorded. The sessions will be professionally organised using facilitators skilled in highlighting issues. There will also be a photo-opportunity on the day.

Whilst the NMC already sets standards for the nursing profession as a whole, the project is designed to form the basis of a stronger foundation for public protection.

"Several areas are to be researched to help the NMC develop the best standards possible" states Susan Aitkenhead, Professional Adviser for Children's Nursing at the NMC. "We would like children and young people to think about what is important to them, what their experiences were, or what they would like them to be in a healthcare setting.

A dedicated email address, kidz@nmc-org has been made specially available for participating children.

"Our public involvement strategy ensures that the NMC gains views from all interested groups and it is vital that this includes children and young people" added Susan Aitkenhead.

The Cardiff event will be the first of four 'road shows', the rest to take place in appropriate locations in each of Northern Ireland - July'05, Scotland - Sept'05, England - Dec '05, details to be announced.

The project will form the basis of a UK wide consultation to be developed in 2006.

- Ends -

Notes for Editors - NMC

1. The Nursing and Midwifery Council (NMC) is the UK regulatory body for the nursing and midwifery professions. The NMC maintains a register of around 660,000 qualified nurses, midwives and specialist community public health nurses.
2. The role of the NMC is to protect the public by ensuring that nurses and midwives provide high standards of care. The NMC sets and improves standards for education, practice and conduct, provides advice to nurses and midwives and considers

allegations of misconduct or unfitness to practice due to ill health, or lack of competence.

Special Note – media photo opportunity To ensure the focus group participants experience no discomfort due to media presence, all sessions will be held in private. A photo- opportunity is however scheduled for approx 13.30 hrs.



Nursing of Children and Young People – Standards for Performance and Ethics
Programme - 15 March 2005

Cardiff – Marriott Hotel, Mill Lane Cardiff CF10 1EZ - Tel 0870 400 7290

10.00 – 10.30	Registration and coffee
10.30 – 10.45	Welcome and opening remarks <i>John Leece Jones, NMC Member</i>
10.45 – 11.15	How do we gain children and young people's views? <i>Darren and young people, Funky Dragon</i>
11.15 – 11.45	An overview of current healthcare issues for children, young people and their families/carers <i>Keith Bowen and parents, Contact a Family</i>
11.45 – 12.05	Protecting children and young people <i>Peter Clarke, Children's Commissioner</i>
12.05 – 12.20	Working with regulation <i>Jean Christensen, National Public Health Service</i>
12.20 – 12.30	Conclusion of morning Setting the scene for afternoon workshops <i>Eiri Jones, NMC Member</i>
12.30 – 13.30	Lunch & media photo opportunity
13.30 – 14.30	Break out sessions
14.30 – 15.20	Feedback and future plans <i>Group facilitators and</i> <i>Susan Aitkenhead, Professional Adviser Children's Nursing</i>
15.20 – 15.30	Closing remarks <i>Eiri Jones</i>

For further information, contact Geoff Lawrence, NMC Press Officer on 0207 333 6557, or Stuart Skyte, NMC Head of Communications on 0207 333 6558.