Family Nurse Partnership Wakefield

The Family Nurse Partnership is an evidence based Nurse home visiting programme developed in the USA. It is offered to first-time young mothers early in pregnancy (ideally before 16 weeks gestation), continuing until their child is 24 months old. The Family Nurse Partnership (FNP) works with parents aged 24 and under, partnering them with a specially trained Family Nurse who visits them regularly, from early pregnancy until their child is two. FNP is highly structured - in that the tools it uses and the nature and number of visits is prescribed, based on years of research, evidence, successful implementation and constant evaluation - but it is also flexible. Within this structure, Family Nurses deliver a highly personalised intervention based around the specific strengths and needs of each client. Family Nurses also use specific approaches derived from the world of motivational interviewing, focusing on enhancing a young parent’s motivation to change. Family Nurses listen, guide and advise using these skills, and by staying aware of their style of communication. By focusing on their strengths, FNP enables young parents to:

- Develop good relationships with and understand the needs of their child.
- Make choices that will give their child the best possible start in life.
- Believe in themselves and their ability to succeed.

Mirror the positive relationship they have with their Family Nurse with others.

Service Profile

The Family Nurse Partnership Team in Wakefield are part of the Wakefield 0-19 Service and are currently based at Ash Grove Medical Centre in Knottingley. The team consists of the following roles:

- 2 Part time Family Nurse Supervisors (Service Managers)
- 7 Family Nurses
- 1 Quality Support Officer/ Admin support
- Clinical Psychologist (3 hours a month consultancy support to the team)

Key Service Objectives

There are three main aims

- To improve maternal and child pregnancy outcomes
- To improve child health and developmental outcomes
- To improve parent’s economic self-sufficiency.