

The Children's Palliative Care Service provides a high standard of nursing care and support for children, young people and their families, when they have been diagnosed with a life-limiting condition.

### How do we get referred to the Service?

Referrals to Palliative Care are made by families, lead professionals, community nurses, GPs and paediatricians in consultation with the family. A referral can be made in writing, over the phone or in person. The initial referral will lead to a visit from a nurse who will complete a referral form and a nursing assessment.

### What does the Service do?

We provide support for children and young people who have:

1. life-limiting conditions for which a curative treatment may be feasible, but can fail
2. conditions with long periods of intensive treatment aimed at prolonging life and allowing participation in normal childhood activities
3. progressive conditions without curative treatment options, where treatment is exclusively palliative which may extend over many years
4. conditions with severe neurological disabilities which cause weakness and make the patient susceptible to health complications which may deteriorate unpredictably.

We provide support to children and young people:

- at home
- in their school
- at a short breaks facility
- in the community.

We work in partnership with families, community and hospital professionals and the Further and Early Response Services to make sure your child's social, emotional and educational needs are met and supported alongside their health needs.

We provide:

- support with medical needs and symptom control
- support for the psychological and emotional needs of the family at this difficult time
- support 24 hours a day seven days a week
- a 24 hour on-call rota in Eastern Devon.

### How do we get more information?

For more information speak to your child's lead professional, community nurse or health professional.

We welcome feedback from young people and parents about this service. You can call **01392 356920** or email [d-pc.feedbackchildrensservices@nhs.net](mailto:d-pc.feedbackchildrensservices@nhs.net) or with your comments.

July 2011