

Unaccompanied Asylum Seeking Child/Looked After Child Initial Health Assessment

Information Leaflet for Young People

What is an Initial Health Assessment?

An Initial Health Assessment or IHA is a detailed talk about your health and includes a physical examination. It will help you to be healthy and have the knowledge to stay healthy. It is confidential – this means that unless you are at serious risk of harm or danger the doctor or nurse will not pass on any information to anyone without your consent. It is your decision to have one – this means that you have to agree to the health assessment and that you can ask for it to stop at any time. This health assessment will not in anyway affect your claim for asylum in the UK and it is offered for your benefit.

Who will I see at the health assessment?

You will see a specialist doctor or nurse, male or female. They are experienced in talking to young people like you who are seeking asylum and they understand that you are likely to have had some very difficult experiences. If you cannot speak English very well we will arrange for an interpreter to be at the assessment with you. It is important to remember that anything you say to the interpreter is confidential so they cannot pass that information on to anyone unless you want them to. You may want your carer to attend or you may wish to bring a friend. It is up to you.

What will happen at the health assessment?

You will meet with the doctor or nurse and talk confidentially about your health. They will listen to any concerns you have. Your doctor or nurse will invite you to talk about the experiences you have had in your own country and on your journey to the UK because these events may have affected your health. They may ask about your family and their health. You will be asked about how you are feeling and coping. You will have your height and weight checked and they may check your vision and look at your skin and listen to your heart and lungs. Then your doctor or nurse will give you advice.

This is your health assessment so you decide what you want to talk about and your doctor or nurse will not do anything that you have not agreed to first. But remember that it is a good thing to be healthy and to stay healthy.

What happens after my health assessment?

After the health assessment your doctor or nurse will write a report and a health plan. This will recommend things that we need to do to keep you healthy. This might include having vaccinations, blood tests, seeing a dentist for your teeth or an optician for your eyes. A copy of this report and plan will be sent to you to keep and to your GP for your health record. A summary will be sent to your Social Worker, Specialist Nurse and any other health professionals involved in your care. If you don't want your information shared please tell the doctor or nurse.

You will be offered another health assessment in a year but in the meantime if you have any more concerns about your health you can see your GP.



Unaccompanied Asylum Seeking Child/Looked After Child Consent for a statutory Initial or Review Health Assessments

To be completed by the examining health professional and retained within the young person's health record.

Consent by the young person with capacity to consent is essential.

Does the young person have capacity to consent? (delete as necessary) Yes/No

If not, then check for signed consent in Part A of the BAAF assessment form

Has the young person undertaken any of the following activity to support their understanding of the health assessment and consent?

- | | |
|---|----------------------------|
| a. Read any printed information | Yes/No |
| b. Watched the Podcast | Yes/No |
| c. Conversation with their interpreter prior to the appointment | Yes/No |
| d. Other information | Yes/No If yes state source |

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Consent by the young person	
<p>I understand the need for this health assessment and I agree to be seen. I understand that following this assessment, a summary and recommendations for my health care plan will be drawn up. A copy of this will be given to me and my social worker. I consent to copies being sent to my carer, birth parent(s), GP and school nurse/doctor (delete or add as necessary).</p>	
Signature young person	Date
Signature of the interpreter	Date
Signature of the examining health professional	Date

List those present at assessment:

