

## **Progressing Disability Services for Children**

### **‘Progressing Disability Services for Children and Young People’**

is an HSE programme which aims to achieve a single national approach to delivering disability health services.

There should be a clear pathway to services for all children regardless of where they live, what school they go to or the nature of their disability or delay.

The programme also aims to ensure that children receive the health services they need as close to their home and school as possible.

### **How is service provision changing?**

When the progressing disability services programme is fully implemented all public disability services will be provided directly by the HSE.

Disability services for children will no longer be accessed through separate organisations that provide services for children who have a particular kind of disability. There will no longer be excellent services in one area or little or no services in another area. The HSE advises that service provision will be unified, equitable and consistent.

If your child is now attending a separate children's disability service, when the services are reconfigured, your child will instead attend the nearest local HSE team.

### **Will my child attend HSE Primary Care or a Multi-disciplinary Team?**

Under the Progressing Disability Services Programme some children may have their needs met by their local HSE Primary Care Services.

All children with more complex needs, regardless of the nature of their disability or developmental delay, should have their needs met by the local HSE Early Intervention or School Age Team – a multidisciplinary team.

These teams will in turn be supported by specialist services when a high level of expertise is required.

### **Who is managing the programme?**

The Progressing Disability Services for Children Programme is led by the HSE in partnership with the non-statutory disability organisations, the Department of Health, the Department of Education and Skills and associated agencies. It is being organised at national, regional and local level.

There is a National Co-ordinating Group with representatives from the Department of Health, the Department of Education and Skills, the Health Service Executive, the voluntary service providers and parents through their umbrella organisations. The National Co-ordinating Group is monitoring the programme across the country and giving guidance and support.

### **The Local implementation Group or LIG**

Local Implementation Groups or LIGs have been set up across the country to include all the services in the area and to engage with parents in the change process. At local level plans are being formed and decisions made on how services will change in line with the national programme.

### **Useful Links**

[HSE Progressing Disability Services for Children and Young People](#)