The NSW Children’s Healthcare Networks are currently collaborating on *Allied to Kids, Allied Health Education and Clinical Support*. An Allied Health Educator is employed in each of the three Children’s Healthcare Network regions to address the education, training and clinical support issues for NSW Health, allied health professionals who work with children across the state.

**Vision:**

Allied health professionals are educated and supported to provide children and families with the right care, in the right place, at the right time.

**Right care:**
- Effectively meeting the needs of the child and family.
- Provide inclusive, family centred, culturally respectful and age appropriate care.

**Right place:**
- Strong links with all the areas that provide allied health services (e.g. Tertiary facilities, other LHDs, key stakeholders NGOs etc.).
- The child and family have a seamless journey through the health system – continuum of care in place.

**Right time:**
- The child and family are seen by the most appropriate service at any point in time.
- Allied health professionals are able to engage services for children and their families within appropriate time frames.
### Strategic Directions:

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| **Strategic Direction 5:** Right Care, Right Place, Right Time. | **Strategic Direction 1:** Build capacity to deliver best practice care as close to home as possible. | 1.1. Identify priority/emerging areas requiring clinical education and support.  
1.2. Identify best practice models of care regarding identified priority areas.  
1.3. Support AHP to do research in a clinical environment.  
1.4. Identify and collaborate with key groups engaged in the development of best practice models of care.  
1.5. Implement education strategies according to the educational need and scope of practice of the target population – rural/metro, generalist/specialist, community/acute, primary/tertiary.  
1.7. Investigate the role and capacity of other professionals to support allied health-related services. Including: allied health assistants, DEC personnel, private service providers, NGO, other government-funded services.  
1.8. Engage other allied health professionals not previously included. |
| **Objectives** | **Strategic Direction 2:** Strengthen/promote integrated, connected healthcare. | 2.1. Establish formal and informal clinical networks – locally, regionally, state-wide.  
2.2. Promote clinical handover.  
2.3. Investigate ADHC legacy.  
2.4. Identify existing, successful models of partnership (e.g. health and education, health and NGO).  
2.5. Build and strengthen partnerships with tertiary facilities  
   ▪ Allied health clinicians  
   ▪ Health entity  
   ▪ Other government organisations  
   ▪ NGOs  
2.6. Build and strengthen partnerships with allied health clinicians.  
2.7. Build and strengthen partnerships with non-government and non-health organisations.  
2.8. Build and strengthen partnerships with relevant paediatric health entities.  
2.9. Build and strengthen partnerships with DEC.  
2.10. Build and strengthen partnerships with Agency for Clinical Innovation (ACI).  
2.11. Build and strengthen partnerships with Clinical Excellence Commission (CEC).  
2.12. Identify gaps and barriers to providing integrated care. |
## Strategic Direction 3: Strengthen/promote inclusive, family-centred, culturally respectful and age-appropriate care

- **2.13.** Promote interprofessional practice.
- **2.14.** Identify and promote clinical pathways.
- **2.15.** Empower competent allied health professionals in clinically-related areas e.g. Project management, facilitation.

### Strategic Direction 4: Appraise and promote models of education and support their impact on clinical practice

- **3.1.** Identify core skills for working with children and young people.
- **3.2.** Facilitate the application of culturally respectful care within clinical practice.
- **3.3.** Facilitate the application of age, developmental level and functioning of clients.
- **3.4.** Facilitate the application of capacity of parents/carers and the family/social/emotional context.

### Key Activities:

- Allied Health Telehealth Virtual Education – fortnightly videoconference/webinar education sessions.
- Allied to Kids Newsletter – monthly newsletter distributed by email, website and HSNet.
- Educational Secondments – opportunity to be supported in attending tertiary or specialist centre for up to 5 days.
- Clinical Practice Guidelines
  - Cerebral Palsy
  - Paediatric Feeding
  - Plagiocephaly

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• Education programs for targeted clinical areas (blended learning approach)
  o Brachial Plexus
  o Congenital Talipes Equinovarus
  o Feeding difficulties in children
  o Plagiocephaly
  o Home Enteral Nutrition

• Education programs for clinical skill development (blended learning approach)
  o Interprofessional Family Conferencing
  o Delivering difficult news to children’s families
  o Child Centred Interactions
  o RESUS4Allied Health Rescuer

• Introduction to working with children
  o Orientation Program
  o Introduction to Paediatrics study day
  o Beyond Milestones

• MP4 Paediatric Capacity Mapping

• Research
  o Pilot of the Beyond Milestones online education resource with allied health professionals
  o Using secondments in tertiary health facilities to build paediatric expertise in allied health professionals working in rural New South Wales