

## Knowledge and Library Services Case Study

### *Shropshire Community Health NHS Trust / Shrewsbury and Telford Health Libraries: Systematic review protocol support for ‘The Impact of Time Spent in Natural Outdoor Spaces on Children’s Language, Communication and Social Skills’*

3<sup>rd</sup> October 2022

#### Reason for enquiry

We were looking to write up and publish a systematic review protocol on the impact of spending time in nature or outdoor spaces on children’s language, communication and social skills.

#### What the knowledge and library specialist did

I approached the library for advice on databases to use, and search strategies. The librarian provided information about which databases we could access, that included some we were unaware of such as GreenFILE.

The librarian also suggested search terms we could try, and helped us design search strategies for databases such as ERIC, PsycINFO and Medline that included thesaurus terms and free-text words (including ones we had not considered such as ecotherapy). The strategies were tested using a known article on the topic in question.

The search strategy for PsycINFO designed by the librarian was included in the published protocol.

## Impact of input from the library and knowledge service

#### Immediate Impact

The support from the library service enabled myself and my co-authors to write up a systematic review protocol ‘The Impact of Time Spent in Natural Outdoor Spaces on Children’s Language, Communication and Social Skills: A Systematic Review Protocol’ that was published in the International Journal of Environmental Research and Public Health in September 2022.

## **Probable future Impact**

It is planned that a full systematic review will be carried out and published using the protocol as a basis, and that this will enhance understanding of this dimension of health and health inequality impacts, and inform policy makers, researchers, and clinicians about the benefits of being outdoors for children.

## **Name and Job Title:**

Steph Scott, Clinical Lead Children's Speech and Language Therapist: Fluency, Voice, Research and Development, Shropshire Community Health NHS Trust

**For further information on how you can get similar support contact your local NHS library and knowledge service.**

## Submission Details

*[To be completed by Knowledge and Library Service at the point of submission]*

### Name of Organisation

Shropshire Community Health NHS Trust

### Knowledge and Library Service Contact Email:

Jason Curtis, [jason.curtis1@nhs.net](mailto:jason.curtis1@nhs.net)

### Title of Case Study

Systematic review protocol support for 'The Impact of Time Spent in Natural Outdoor Spaces on Children's Language, Communication and Social Skills'

### NHS Region *[Make bold the option which applies:]*

East of England

London

**Midlands**

North East and Yorkshire

North West

South East

South West

### Sector *[Make bold the option which applies:]*

Acute

Acute and community

Care Trust

Clinical Commissioning Group

Commissioning Support

**Community Trust**

Cross-sector

Local Education and Training Board

Mental Health

Mental Health / Learning Disability

Mental Health / Social Care

Primary Care

Public Health

Shared Service / Informatics

Special HA

Other. If other, please specify

### Group Impacted *[Make bold the option which applies:]*

Additional Clinical Services

Administrative and Clerical

**Allied Health Professionals**

Estates and Ancillary

Healthcare Scientists

Medicine and Dental

Multiprofessional

Patients, Carers and the Public

Nursing and Midwifery

Scientific and Technical

Students

**Impact Types** *[Make bold any of the impact types below which apply]*

Contributed to personal or professional development

Contributed to service development or delivery

Facilitated collaborative working

Health Information for Patients, Carers and the Public

Improved the quality of patient care

**Mobilising evidence and organisational knowledge**

More informed decision making

Productivity and efficiency

Reduced risk or improved safety

Saved money or contributed to financial effectiveness

Improved health and wellbeing of staff and learners

**Consent**

I have consent from individuals referred to in this case study to share details nationally for advocacy and promotion. *[Make bold the option which applies:]*

**Yes**

No