

Friday, 20 March 2026

[Health and Social Wellbeing Improvement](#)

The image is a promotional graphic for the 'Infant Mental Health Framework for Northern Ireland'. At the top, the title 'Infant Mental Health Framework for Northern Ireland' is displayed in a bold, black font, with a horizontal orange line underneath. Below the title is a photograph of a woman with dark hair smiling at a young child with light hair who is wearing a blue and white striped shirt. They are sitting on a bed, and the child is holding a yellow toy. The background is a soft-focus room with a light blue wall. At the bottom of the image, there is a yellow banner with the text 'Starting Well - from pre-birth to three years'. Below this banner is a smaller orange box containing the text 'March 2026'. In the bottom right corner, the HSC Public Health Agency logo is visible, consisting of a blue square with 'HSC' in white and the words 'Public Health Agency' to its right.

**Infant Mental Health Framework**  
for Northern Ireland

Starting Well - from pre-birth to three years

March 2026

HSC Public Health Agency

This Infant Mental Health Framework represents a commitment by the Public Health Agency, Health and Social Care Board and Trusts, as well as academic, research, voluntary and community organisations across Northern Ireland, to improve interventions from the ante-natal period through to children aged three years old.

The new Framework builds on the strong foundation of inter-sectoral and interagency commitment to early intervention with families during pregnancy and throughout the first 1000 days. The case for a whole system approach continues to be reinforced by growing evidence that the experiences of a child's earliest years have profound and lasting effects on physical and mental health across the lifespan.

The PHA Infant Mental Health e-bulletin compiled by the National Children's Bureau is now available

## [NI infant mental health bulletin](#)

The e-bulletin is a means of sharing progress from stakeholders whose work contributes to the PHA Infant Mental Health Framework

<https://www.publichealth.hscni.net/publications/infant-mental-health-framework-northern-ireland>

The work supports protecting and improving population health through a focus on 0-3's and interventions that supports early childhood development.

Any queries please contact [Maurice.Meehan@hscni.net](mailto:Maurice.Meehan@hscni.net)

The e-bulletin includes a snapshot of all the local good practice across Northern Ireland and beyond, as well as emerging research and practice developments that may be of interest. As always, if you have information that you would like to include in future IMH e-Bulletins, or you wish to be added to the mailing list, please contact Paula Carson-Lewis [pcarson-lewis@ncb.org.uk](mailto:pcarson-lewis@ncb.org.uk)

## Details

Format

A4, 46 pages PDF and Microsoft Word version

Target group

Health Professionals

## Downloads

| Attachment   | Size    |
|--|---------|
| <a href="#">Infant Mental Health Framework for Northern Ireland (March 2026)</a>               | 1.47 MB |
| <a href="#">Infant Mental Health Framework for Northern Ireland (March 2026, Word version)</a> | 4.06 MB |

## Tags

- [mental infant health](#)

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