**Aspiring Cleft Professionals - Clinical Nurse Specialist**

The Clinical Nurse Specialist is a core member of the multidisciplinary team, specialising in the management of the child and family promoting a partnership of care between family and professionals, especially until completion of primary surgery. Within regional services spanning hospital and community, based on a holistic family approach. The aims are to reduce long term physical and emotional problems within the family and to establish as near normal a feeding regime with the baby as possible. The nurse responds to referrals normally within 24 hours to assess and plan the nursing care of patients using evidence based practice.

**PATHWAY**