

From enteral to oral...

The development of a children's and young person's screening tool and care pathway for the cessation of enteral feeding and re-introduction of oral feeding

Enteral feeding or tube feeding is often necessary to ensure adequate nutrition in sick infants and children. Weaning a child off enteral feeding can be difficult as many will have developed feeding problems. Currently in Shropshire no care pathway exists.

Project team:

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Project aim:

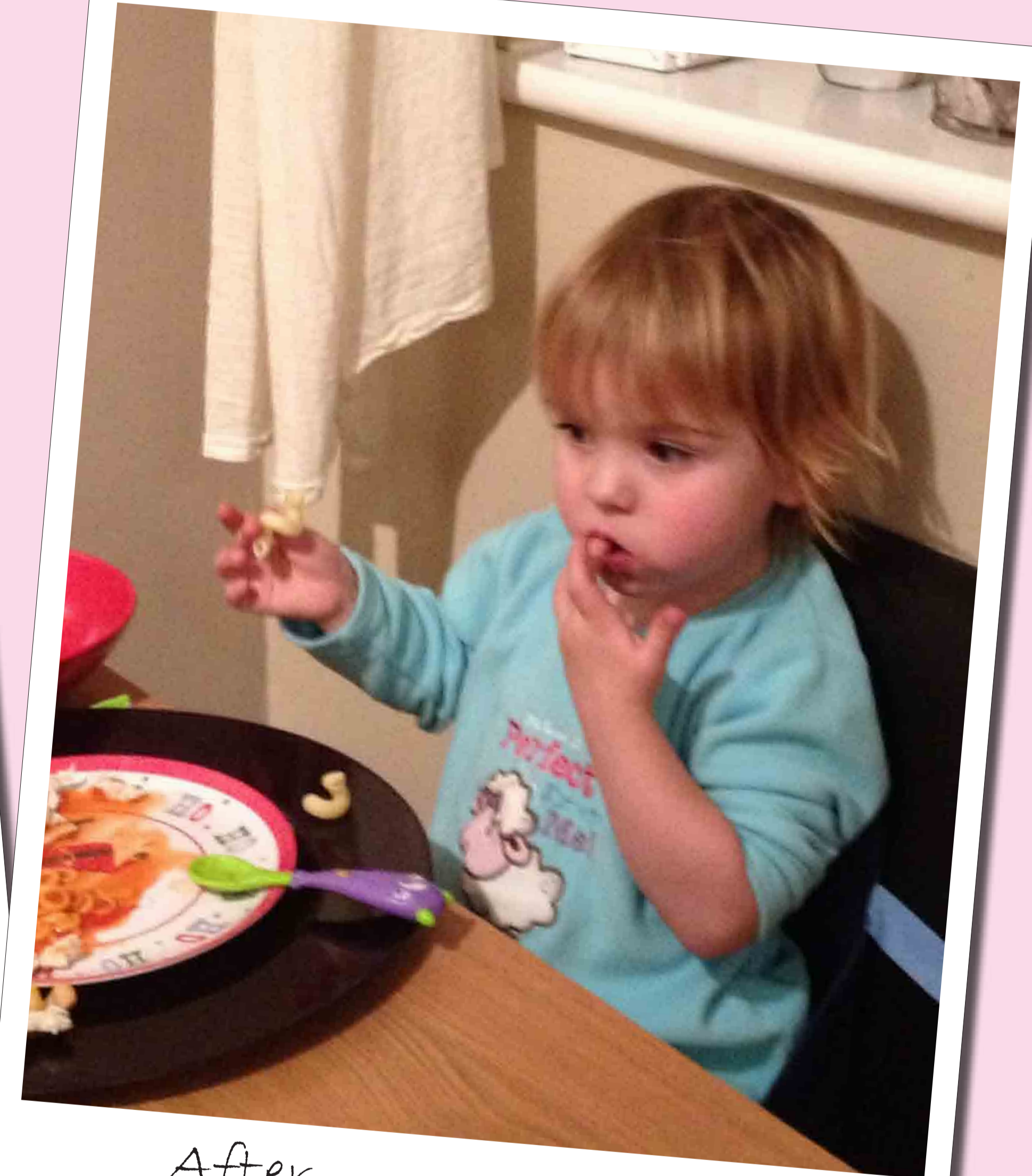
To develop a care pathway to re-introduce oral feeding to children who are enterally fed.

Outcomes:

- screening tool and care pathway developed
- 4 children have successfully returned to being completely orally fed and feeding devices have been permanently removed.
- 4 remaining children have significantly reduced their need for enteral feeding
- Feeding team now well established and is improving multidisciplinary working
- Parent information literature developed and families reported feeling better supported through the process of weaning



Before...



After...

‘The plan worked so well and fitted into family life. The team have been invaluable. My child no longer has a tube.’ Patient’s parent