

Combined Child Health Paediatric Occupational Therapy Service

Information for Parents/Guardians



Paediatric Occupational Therapists are concerned with occupational performance, i.e. enabling the child and family to engage more successfully in those activities, which occupy daily life. For children, this may mean playing, socialising and making the most of school, as much as being able to brush their own teeth or hold a pencil.

Occupational Therapists focus not so much on the problem itself, but on how it affects the ability to do normal everyday activities.

Occupational therapy is available for children aged 0 - school leaving age.



Paediatric Occupational Therapy aims to enable each child to discover just how much they can do for themselves The Occupational Therapy service may address the child's needs in the following areas:

- Self care and independence skills, including activities of daily living
- Upper limb and hand function, including pencil skills
- Equipment/Environmental modification needs for home and/or school
- Sensory/motor skills
- Sensory processing skills
- Play skills

We may also be involved in addressing the child's needs, in conjunction with other professionals, in the following areas:

- Social interaction skills
- Functional communication skills, including use of gestures and symbols
- Emotional/behavioural skills

Paediatric Occupational Therapists work with children and their families in the most appropriate setting, including hospital, clinics, schools and in the home.

The service provides assessment and intervention which may include treatment, support, advice and liaison with the child and family. We also liaise with other professionals within health, education and local authority settings.



For further information, please contact

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