**Educational Occupational Therapy Referral Guidance**

 ***What is Occupational Therapy?***

The Warrington Community Children’s Occupational Therapy team sees children and young people who have difficulty joining in with the activities they need and want to do every day.

The service is available for children up to the age of 16 years (up to 19 years if in a specialist educational setting).

***How can you get help?***

You can access our website which provides useful resources and parents, carers and education staff can access our sensory awareness videos on the following link: https://bridgewater.nhs.uk/warrington/paediatricoccupationaltherapy/

***Advice line***

If you have any questions about a child’s ability to carry out their daily activities and functional tasks or referrals you can speak to an occupational therapist who can provide advice and signposting.

***Available Wednesday mornings 9am to 11am on 01925 946097.***

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| ***This document indicates the appropriate age to refer a child based on a specific functional difficulty. Where a column is shaded, it is not appropriate to refer at that age. Please take into consideration the child’s individual developmental stage and diagnosis that may impact on progress.*** |
|  |
|  |  **18 - 24** **months** |  **2 - 3 years** |  **3 - 4 years** |  **4 - 5 years** |  **5 - 6 years** |  **6 - 7 years** |  **7 years** |  **over 8 years** |
| **Referral indicator/ Area of child's difficulty** |
|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Evolving complex needs or syndrome e.g. cerebral palsy |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |
|   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |
| Unable to sit unaided at nursery  |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |
| Needs environmental assessment prior to starting school (e.g. ramps, toileting, seating) |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |
| Needs assessment / review of equipment in school. |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |
|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Unable to grasp and release objects |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |
| Unable to grasp objects using a pincer grasp.(thumb and index finger) |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |
| Unable to manipulate small objects. |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |
| Poor use of tools (cutlery, crayons, scissors etc) |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |
| Poor development of play skills (gross and fine motor) |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |
| Poor organisational skills(organising themselves or objects around them) |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |
|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Needs advice on promoting early self-care skills.(dressing, feeding) |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |
| Unable to finger/spoon feed themselves |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |
| Unable to use cutlery to cut up food |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |
| Unable to take of socks and shoes |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |
| Unable to undress without help |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |
| Unable to dress without help |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |
| Unable to do up buttons |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |
| Unable to tie shoelaces |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |
| Unable to brush teeth efficiently |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |
| Unable to manage own toilet needs |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |
|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Appears to have inappropriate reactions/behaviour to sensory input |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |
| Avoids/seeks sensations. |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |
|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| **In addition to the information above, are there also difficulties in any of the areas below:** |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| mark making holding crayon/pencil between thumb and index fingers |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |
| drawing a vertical line |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |
| drawing horizontal lines, copy a circle /square |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |
| cursive writing |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |
| cutting with scissors |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |

***How to refer?***

A Referral to occupational therapy can now be completed by a SENCO / SENDCO or health care professional.

Referral forms can be found on the children’s Occupational Therapy website below:

https://bridgewater.nhs.uk/warrington/paediatricoccupationaltherapy/

Completed referral forms can be sent by post to:

**Warrington Children’s Occupational Therapy
Child Development Centre
Sandy Lane
Orford
Warrington
WA2 9HY**

**Or by email to:****bchft.warringtonchildrensot@nhs.net.**

***What happens next?***

Once your referral is received it will be triaged by a therapist. The referrer, parent / carer may receive a letter requesting further information or advising the referral has been accepted or declined. A reason for the declined referral will be stated on the letter.

Accepted referrals will be placed on a waiting list and they will be contacted in due course to opt in for an appointment.

If you haven’t had a response within 10 working days, please contact the service on 01925946097.

**Appointments are offered Monday – Friday.**

We offer face to face appointments.

These typically range from 60 – 90 minutes for initial assessments.

Further information can be found on the website regarding attending appointments and parking / travel.