

Why do children see a Children's Occupational Therapist?

- OT's offer assessments and analysis of children's everyday activities, play, self care and school work.
- To identify a child's strengths and difficulties and offer therapeutic approaches and interventions to find solutions with you.
- OT's have specialist knowledge about child development, daily function and independence skills.
- OT's help a child improve their ability to learn, socialise and play.
- To gain a good quality of life and achieve their potential.

Who will see you?

A Children's Occupational Therapist is fully qualified, this means they have three years training and have achieved the high standard required to become a member of the College of Occupational Therapists (COT).

All Children's Occupational Therapists in Suffolk Community Healthcare (SCH) are registered and monitored practitioners with the Health and Care Professions Council (HCPC).

Treatment is also provided by highly trained paediatric occupational therapy assistants and technicians working under direct supervision of qualified staff.

Where will you be seen?

Appointments may be offered at clinics, nurseries, schools and at home, whichever is most appropriate

There are therapists offering services at the following bases:

- St Helen's House, Ipswich
- Bury St Edmunds Child Development Centre
- Stowmarket Child Development Centre
- Ipswich Child Development Centre

What will happen at your appointment?

- Your child will have an initial assessment and you will receive advice, support and your child may be offered targeted interventions.
- You will be given more detailed information on the clinic appointment letter.
- At your first appointment you will be able to discuss what you and your child hope to gain from our service.

Other information

- An adult with parental responsibility is expected to attend the first appointment with their child.
- Informed consent will be sought for assessment and treatment at all stages of the child/young person's involvement with the service.
- Students may be working in the department, fully supervised by senior staff. Your consent will always be sought in advance if a student will be involved in your child's care.
- Information will be recorded in electronic and paper records, and used/stored in accordance with the Data Protection Act.

Things To bring with you:

- Your appointment card/letter
- Your child's personal child health record (red book) if they are pre school age
- Any useful medical or educational information, including a list of any medicine your child takes

You and your child are free to express any concerns or worries, say no, or ask for more information at any stage of an appointment within Integrated Community Paediatric Services.