

Children's Occupational Therapy Provisions in Bristol

This document gives you information on the different types of occupational therapy support available in Bristol and who provides it.

Click on the boxes below to find out more.

My child needs help with...

Developing independence

(e.g. self-care, life skills,
leisure & play)

**Specialist equipment needs at
home and in school**

Adaptations to the home

Sensory Needs

Moving and Handling

Education (e.g. engagement in
class, posture for learning,
handwriting, transition,
accessing the environment)

Occupational Therapy Provision in Bristol

| What is the need? | Which team can help you? | Criteria for referral | Who can refer to this team and how? | What input to expect? |
|---|--|--|---|--|
| <p>Developing independence (e.g. self-care, life skills, leisure & play)</p> | <p>Social Care Occupational Therapy</p> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Child is assessed as disabled • Child lives within the city of Bristol • Child has needs arising from their impairment that cannot be met by mainstream services | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Anyone- parents or professionals • Parents can call the Disabled Children & Specialist Services • Professionals can complete a written referral | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Visit to provide an assessment which looks at barriers to independence in self care, life skills and play • Provide equipment to assist with developing independence eg specialist seating, potty chairs. • Refer for housing adaptations that are needed to overcome barriers to independence eg ramping, extra stair rails. |
| | <p>Health Children's Occupational Therapy</p> | <p>This service is for a child or young person who has a disability which includes motor skills difficulties which affect their functional skills.</p> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Anyone- parents or professionals. • Use the Single Point of Entry form. If referrers provide a functional skills check list, this provides good information to base the decision on. | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • An initial assessment may include an appointment in a health base or a visit to home or education setting. • The appointment may be carried out with a physiotherapy or speech and language therapy colleague if this is appropriate. • The assessment should include discussion with parents, and other relevant professionals involved. • Information is gathered, included facts around who will be able to deliver any programmes or strategies that maybe suggested. |
| | <p>Learning Disabilities Occupational Therapy</p> | <p>Specialist Service for Children with Learning Disabilities (SSCLD) Team member only</p> | <p>Child needs to be actively open to a member of the learning disabilities team. Therefore have a significant learning disability.</p> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Strategies may be suggested, or occasionally group or a fixed block of 1:1 interventions are offered. • Interventions or strategies to try will be offered in the most relevant setting. • Summary of the assessment, strategies to try or tried and how to apply them will be provided. • The summary should include an expected outcome from this intervention. |

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| <p>Specialist equipment needs at home and in school</p> <p>NB It is the schools responsibility to action the provision of equipment for use in school</p> | <p>Social Care Occupational Therapy</p> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Child is assessed as disabled • Child lives within the city of Bristol • Child has needs arising from their impairment that cannot be met by mainstream children's services | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Anyone- parents or professionals • Parents can call the Disabled Children & Specialist Services • Professionals can complete a written/online referral. | <p>Home: The assessment and provision of specialist equipment to assist your child's function and safety. This might include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Seating • Toileting • Bathing/ showering • sleeping • Hoisting (moving and handling) <p>School: The Social Care OT maybe involved in the assessment of equipment if your child is already known to them</p> |
| | <p>Health Children's Occupational Therapy</p> | <p>N/A</p> | <p>Referrals are not usually made for these reason</p> | <p>When a young person has a need for specialist equipment the Occupational therapist will refer to the appropriate service. This maybe the Local Authority Social Care Occupational Therapy team.</p> <p>Health Occupational Therapists may advise families and schools about the equipment needs of the young people who they have assessed. This information will be shared and forwarded to the appropriate service.</p> |
| | <p>Learning Disabilities Occupational Therapy</p> | <p>N/A</p> | <p>Referrals are not usually made for these reasons.</p> | <p>The OT may be involved in the assessment of equipment if your child is already known to them</p> |

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| <p>Adaptations to the home</p> | <p>Social Care Occupational Therapy</p> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Child is assessed as disabled • Child lives within the city of Bristol • Child has needs arising from their impairment that cannot be met by mainstream children's services | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Anyone- parents or professionals • Parents can call the Disabled Children & Specialist Services • Professionals can complete a written/online referral. | <p>The assessment and recommendation of adaptations through the Housing Dept, to give your child access into and around your home. This might include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • the toilet • washing/ bathing facilities • the bedroom • the garden • widening doorways • ramps <p>Provide a report and assistance in supporting your child/families rehousing needs</p> |

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| Sensory Needs | Social Care Occupational Therapy | Children must already be open to occupational therapy for other reasons | We do not accept referrals purely for sensory processing issues | If sensory processing issues are identified by the occupational therapist as part of the assessment process, strategies can be given to help parents understand and manage their child's behaviours. |
| | Health Children's Occupational Therapy | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • This service is still for a child or young person who has a physical disability which affects their functional skills. • Additional sensory needs are sometimes evident in these young people. • When the sensory element of the young persons difficulties are within the typical expectations for the diagnosis a young person therapy may not make any difference and therefore the referral may not be accepted. • Some children have, emotional or behavioural difficulties, or attachment difficulties which will include sensory differences. This service is not the correct specialist service to meet the needs of these young people. | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Anyone- parents or professionals. • Use the Single Point of Entry form. If referrers provide a functional skills check list, this provides good information to base the decision on. | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • An initial assessment may include an appointment in a health base or a visit to home or education setting. • The assessment should include discussion with parents, and other relevant professionals involved. • Information is gathered, including facts around who will be able to deliver any programmes or strategies that maybe suggested. • Invitation to Sensory Needs workshop for parents and school staff • Strategies may be suggested, • Summary of the assessment, strategies to try or tried and how to apply them will be provided. • The summary should include an expected outcome from this intervention. |
| | Learning disabilities Occupational Therapy | You need to be seen by a member of SSCLD (therefore child needs to have significant Learning Disability and be open to the team). | SSCLD Team member | |

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| Moving and Handling | Social Care Occupational Therapy | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Child is assessed as disabled • Child lives within the city of Bristol • Child has needs arising from their impairment that cannot be met by mainstream children's services | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Anyone- parents or professionals • Parents can call the Disabled Children & Specialist Services • Professionals can complete a written/online referral | <p>The assessment and provision of equipment and adaptations to meet the needs of both the child and carers to enable the child to be safely moved.</p> <p>This might include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Advice, education and training • Provision of hoists and slings or other equipment • Will consider transfers to and from the bed/ toilet/seating/bath/ floor |
| | Health Children's Occupational Therapy | <p>Primarily referrals will go to the Health Physiotherapy service</p> <p>Children who are already known to Occupational therapy will be aware of this need and either address this as part of the assessment and intervention or refer on to the most appropriate service such as Physiotherapy.</p> | N/A | N/A |
| | Learning Disabilities Occupational Therapy | <p>Primarily referrals will go to the Health Physiotherapy service</p> <p>Children who are already known to Occupational therapy will be aware of this need and either address this as part of the assessment and intervention or refer on to the most appropriate service such as Physiotherapy.</p> | <p>If a child that has solely has a Moving & Handling they should be referred to the Physiotherapy service team.</p> | <p>Moving and Handling advice and education will be provided as part of recommending specialist equipment (e.g. sensory equipment).</p> |

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| Education (e.g. engagement in class, posture for learning, handwriting, using tools in class, transition; accessing the environment) | Social Care Occupational Therapy | A child has difficulty accessing the curriculum due to the school environment | Schools can make a referral via the Asset Management Team. | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Will assess and make recommendations for adapting the school environment to enable a child to access the curriculum and facilitate inclusion eg ramps/ changing areas/ toileting |
| | Health Children's Occupational Therapy | This service is for a child or young person who has a disability which includes motor skill difficulty which affects their functional skills. | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Anyone- parents or professionals. • Use the Single Point of Entry form. If referrers provide a functional skills check list, this provides good information to base the decision on. | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • An initial assessment may include an appointment in a health base or a visit to home or education setting. • The assessment should include discussion with parents, and education staff • Information is gathered, including facts around who will be able to deliver any programmes or strategies that maybe suggested. • Strategies may be suggested, • Summary of the assessment, strategies to try or tried and how to apply them will be provided. • The summary should include an expected outcome from this intervention. |
| | Learning Disabilities Occupational Therapy | If the need is <u>only</u> at school a referral to Paediatric OT should be made. If there is a school and home need, LD OT input can be offered. | You need to be seen by a member of SSCLD for a referral to LD OT to be accepted (therefore the child needs to have a learning difficulty and be open to the team). | |