

Patient information

Integrated Community Paediatric Services

Children's Community Medical Team

Who are we?

Our team of consultant paediatricians, specialist doctors and a nurse practitioner undertake neurodevelopmental assessments of children and young people from birth. All specialise in child health and in particular child development

What do we do?

The Community Paediatric Team provides a specialist service to children and young people, specifically targeted to those with a range of neuro-disability, long term complex medical and genetic conditions associated with a developmental delay, socio-communication difficulties and those with safeguarding concerns.

Delivery shall include but is not limited to:

- Case management of children with long term conditions, disabilities and complex needs such as cerebral palsy
- Diagnosis and management of epilepsy associated with developmental difficulties
- Assessment of children in specialist clinics, such as genetics, neurology, movement, orthopaedic clinics which are held within the child development centres across the county.
- Neuromuscular Clinic: in conjunction with Community Paediatricians and specialist therapists.
- Assessment of children for possible Autism Spectrum Disorder under the age of 11 years.
- Assessing the health needs of Children in Care, including children undergoing the adoption process and initial health assessments for looked after children.
- Statutory services such as Child Protection /Safeguarding.
- Establishment of shared care arrangements with other providers who contribute to the child's care.
- Assessments for children undergoing Education, Health and Care plans who are under the care of the medical service.
- ADHD management for some children with ongoing significant medical needs due to a developmental or genetic condition.

- Development Co-ordination Disorder – after school as implemented management strategies as per the occupational therapy pathway.

The medical service is unable to accept referrals for children of any age with the following problems:

- Suspected Autism Spectrum Disorder in children over 11 years.
- Assessment of cognitive skills and education attainment in school aged children in order to diagnose a learning disability.
- New referrals for Suspected ADHD.
- Educational problems such as dyslexia or dyscalculia.
- Dyspraxia.
- Isolated behaviour problems or general anxiety.
- Children with behaviour problems which are due to social and family difficulties.
- Delayed toilet training, Constipation and soiling.
- Children with sleep difficulties where there is no underlying neurodevelopmental difficulty.

How long will my child wait to be seen?

We aim to see all children and young people within 18 weeks of their referral date. However, due to unprecedented demand the waiting times can vary.

Where will my child be seen?

Your child will be seen in local community clinics, children's centres, occasionally at school.

To assist with communicating with you we have a SMS Text Messaging and Email service available. To use this we require your consent. Please ensure that we always have your correct contact details.

What will happen at the appointment?

- Informed consent will be sought for assessment and treatment at all stages of your child/young person's involvement with the service.
- An adult with parental responsibility is expected to attend the first appointment. We would encourage that parents update each other about any upcoming appointments with their child.
- We will listen to the concerns you may have about your child and ask questions about their health and development. Your child's development will be assessed. Usually, the child or young person will need to be physically examined. Any identified problems will be discussed with you and a management plan will be made regarding appropriate investigations or assessment and diagnostic pathways to be followed.

- Part of your child's assessment may involve accessing information from their educational setting.
- Children and young people with active on-going medical problems are reviewed to support management of their conditions according to their specific needs.
- 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.

Policy for missed appointments

We ask that if you are unable to attend appointments that you contact the service as early as possible to cancel or rearrange. If you do not attend a planned session and you have not notified us that you need to cancel it, we may discharge your child back to the referrer.

Contact us:

Community Paediatric Medical Team (WEST)

Child Development Centre, Hospital Road, Bury St Edmunds, IP33 3ND Tel: 01284 741700

icpswestmedical@wsh.nhs.uk

Community Paediatric Medical Team (EAST)

St Helen's House, 571 Foxhall Road, Ipswich, IP3 8LX Tel: 01473 321200

Further information on our services can be found on our website:

www.wsh.nhs.uk/icps

If you have any queries or concerns with any aspect of your child's care that cannot be resolved with your clinician please contact the team leader.

[If you feel unable to discuss your concerns in this way please contact the Patient Advice and Liaison Service \(PALS\).](#)

Email: PALS@wsh.nhs.uk Tel: **0800 917 9673** or **01284 712555** (24hr answerphone)

Clinical research

West Suffolk NHS Foundation Trust is actively involved in clinical research. Your doctor, clinical team or the research and development department may contact you regarding specific clinical research studies that you might be interested in participating in. If you do not wish to be contacted for these purposes, please email info.gov@wsh.nsh.uk. This will in no way affect the care or treatment you receive.

Accessibility

If you require this leaflet in a different format, please contact the patient advice and liaison service on 01284 712555 or email PALS@wsh.nhs.uk

If you would like any information regarding access to our Trust services and facilities, please visit the website for Accessible: <https://www.accessable.co.uk/organisations/west-suffolk-nhs-foundation-trust>

