



Occupational therapy

Children's community occupational therapy service (North)

What is occupational therapy?

Occupational therapy (OT) helps children and young people to achieve their full potential in their ability to play, learn and look after themselves. The aim is to improve a child's level of independence and quality of life.

About our services

In Oxfordshire we aim to provide a responsive, equitable and high quality service to enable children and young people to develop their skills and participation in their daily activities.

We work collaboratively with other professionals, for example: physiotherapists, speech and language therapists, paediatricians, teachers, hospital OT services, the wheelchair service, voluntary agencies, social and community services and children, young people and families.

Areas we can help with:

- self-care skills, dressing eating, toilet and bathing
- posture and seating
- hand function
- co-ordination difficulties
- handwriting
- perceptual skills e.g. body awareness and eye-hand co-ordination
- sensory processing (such as over or under-responsiveness to sensory information like loud noises, different textures, unexpected changes to routine)
- access to the environment at home and school- assessment and provision of specialist equipment (such as seating, self-care equipment, hoisting and slings)

Who do we help?

We see children from 0-18 years in Oxfordshire who have a range of difficulties and disabilities which affect their ability to participate in daily activities. For example:

- physical and learning disabilities (such as cerebral palsy, developmental delay)
- complex needs (such as acquired brain injury)
- coordination difficulties (such as developmental co-ordination disorder DCD)
- sensory processing difficulties (such as autism, autistic spectrum disorders)

How do you refer?

We accept referrals through

- SPORFI and single point of access
- health professionals (such as GPs, paediatricians, SLTs, physiotherapists)
- educational professionals (such as teachers, SENCOs, EYSENITs)
- parents, guardians or young people (if already known to the service)
- PCAMHS and CAMHS (child and adolescent mental health services)
- social and community services

Referral forms and packs can be obtained from the website

www.oxfordhealth.nhs.uk/?service_description=childrens-occupational-therapy-service

or by contacting your local therapy admin.

What happens after a child or young person is referred?

Referrals are screened and prioritised in accordance with OT service criteria and policies. Referrers, parents and teachers may be asked to complete a questionnaire or contacted to gain further information.

When the referral meets the criteria the child is placed on a waiting list and an acknowledgement letter will be sent to the referrer and parent or guardian

An occupational therapist in your area will then make contact to arrange an assessment either at school, home or in a clinic, depending on your preference and the area mentioned in the referral.

We aim to see children within 18 weeks of referral.

What we offer:

The type of intervention provided is determined according to the needs of the child, young person and clinical pathways.

- After a referral is received, the child or young person is assessed and recommendations given to address their specific functional issues. The child or young person, parents and teaching staff are involved in setting goals or targets.
- After the issues have been addressed and the goals or targets achieved, the child is discharged from the service. Advice via telephone and email continues to be available at any time. If new issues arise the child or young person can be re-referred.

- We are a confidential service.
- For young people - we will not discuss anything about you without talking to you first. We follow safeguarding guidelines.
- We offer standard or specialist equipment and minor or major adaptations to the child's environment.
- We make sure the disabled child has a safe and inclusive environment.
- We maximise the child's ability to gain control over the practical aspects of their daily life.
- We give information and advice to disabled children and their carers about other sources of help.
- We work together with a range of professionals who work with disabled children.
- We ask people who use our services for feedback and consult with them to improve services.
- We provide all assessments and equipment for looked after children.

Recommendations will include:

- a report outlining your child or young person's strengths and needs.
- written activity advice for their settings (such as nursery, school or home) and may include:
 - a direct one-to-one session to implement therapy interventions, train parents or teaching assistants.
 - follow-up visits to monitor progress and implement advice.

- advice on improving the child's access to his or her environment at home and school through specialist equipment and adaptations.
- training for teaching staff through training packages, such as 'move to learn', 'developing hand skills', 'sensory processing or parents' workshops.
- signposting and referral to other services (such as social and community services, SENSS physical disability service).

Further information:

A duty occupational therapist is available once a week in each locality. They can assist with referral enquiries, general advice and signposting to other services.

If you would like to contact the duty occupational therapist or gain further information regarding our service please contact your locality office.

City office contact details:

Children's Community Occupational Therapy Service
HEPAC

Level LG1, Children's Hospital

John Radcliffe Hospital

Headley Way

Headington

Oxford

OX3 9DU

Tel: 01865 231 988

We are interested in your views. Is there anything we can do better?

Let us know by email:

oxonchildrens.therapies@oxfordhealth.nhs.uk

Any comments, compliments, or concerns please contact:

Pauline Dobbs, children's integrated therapy manager and occupational therapist

Tel: 07770 865 155

Email: pauline.dobbs@oxfordhealth.nhs.uk

Complaints:

Please address formal complaints to:

PALS and Complaints
Warneford Hospital
Warneford Lane
Headington
Oxford
OX3 7JX

Email: pals@oxfordhealth.nhs.uk

Confidentiality:

All personal information will be confidential and only shared with relevant professionals after consent is obtained from a parent or guardian.

If you need the information in another language or format please ask us

Nëse ky informacion ju nevojitet në një gjuhë apo format tjetër, ju lutem na kontaktoni

আপনি যদি এই তথ্যাদি অন্য কোন ভাষায় বা মাধ্যমে (ফরমেট) পেতে চান
তবে দয়া করে আমাদেরকে বলুন

જો તમને આ માહિતી બીજી ભાષામાં અથવા બીજા આકારમાં જોઈએ, તો કૃપા કરીને અમને પૂછો

यदि आपको यह जानकारी किसी दूसरी भाषा या आकार में चाहिए हो तो कृपया हम से पूछें

若您需要本信息的另一种语言或格式的版本文本，请与我们联系

ਜੇਕਰ ਤੁਹਾਨੂੰ ਇਹ ਜਾਣਕਾਰੀ ਕਿਸੀ ਦੂਜੀ ਭਾਸ਼ਾ ਜਾਂ ਸ਼ਕਲ ਵਿੱਚ ਚਾਹੀਦੀ ਹੈ ਤਾਂ ਕਿਰਪਾ ਕਰ ਕੇ ਸਾਨੂੰ ਪੁੱਛੋ

اگر آپ کو یہ معلومات کسی دوسری زبان میں یا کسی دوسرے طریقہ سے درکار ہوں تو براہ کرم ہم سے پوچھیں:-

Oxford Health NHS Foundation Trust

Trust Headquarters

Warneford Hospital

Warneford Lane

Headington

Oxford

OX3 7JX

Switchboard 01865 901 000

Email enquiries@oxfordhealth.nhs.uk

Website www.oxfordhealth.nhs.uk

Children's occupational therapy is part of the Children and Young People Directorate.

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