

## **Information for Parents and Carers**

### **Jargon Buster- Health**

#### **Health**

- **Paediatrician**

Are doctors who manage the health of your child, including physical, behaviour, and mental health issues. They're trained to diagnose and treat childhood illnesses, from minor health problems to serious diseases.

- **Speech and language therapy services (SALT)**

SLTs help people of all ages with speech, language and communication problems. They can also help people with eating, drinking and swallowing difficulties.

- **Physiotherapy (Physio)**

Physiotherapy focuses on enabling and supporting children to reach their full physical potential, and maintain posture. This may be through exercise programmes (strengthening, balance, stability, stretching), through equipment (standing frames, walkers, orthotics) or through activity advice (community based or specialist therapy lead). All of this aims to minimise pain and discomfort and enrich daily life and activity.

- **Occupational Therapy (OT)**

Occupational Therapists treat and provide strategies for people of various ages and with various conditions/difficulties to enable them to be as independent as possible with daily tasks. This may include getting dressed, feeding themselves, accessing the bath and toilet. Children's OT will also assess and treat skills required at school or nursery, like handwriting, PE activities and age-appropriate leisure activities.

- **Ophthalmology**

Ophthalmologists are medically trained doctors who care for patients who have eye conditions. They manage those with acute and long term eye disease and treat patients of all ages.

- **Audiology**

Audiology is the science of hearing and balance and their associated disorders. Audiologists are involved in diagnosis and rehabilitation of patients.

- **ENT**

Ear, Nose and Throat (ENT) services diagnose and treat conditions of the ears, nose and throat in adults and children.

- **Orthotics**

The Orthotics Service assesses your child's foot posture and walking, then provides support in the form of a heel cup (insole) or AFO (splint) if required.

- **Nurse led clinic**

If you are referred to a nurse led clinic you will be seen by a community learning disability nurse at the hospital. You will be able to discuss issues such as behaviour, continence, sleep, toileting, eating issues and sensory needs.

- **Multi-disciplinary assessment/team (MDA/MDT)**

A Multidisciplinary Team is a group of professionals from one or more clinical disciplines who together make decisions, using assessments, to reach a decision in regards to possible diagnosis.

- **Child Development Team (CDT)**

The child development team is a group of professionals from different departments who meet with parents/carers to co-ordinate the child's care. The CDT includes Health, Education and Charity support.

- **CAMHS (Child and adolescent mental health service)**

The child and adolescent mental health service (CAMHS) provides assessment, interventions and support to children, young people and their families who are suffering from significant mental health or behavioural problems.

If you need to ask any questions or for further advice, please contact:

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