



## 7.8.3 Health - Supporting Children with SEND and their Families

Where a child continues to make less than expected progress, despite evidence based support and interventions that are matched to the child's area of need, practitioners should consider involving appropriate specialists, for example, health visitors, speech and language therapists..... who may be able to identify effective strategies, equipment, programmes or other interventions to enable the child to make progress towards the desired learning and development outcomes. The decision to involve specialists should be taken with the child's parents.

SEND Code of Practice

**The Community Children's Health Partnership (CCHP)** is a partnership led by Sirona care & health CIC. They provide all of the community child health and child and adolescent mental health services for Bristol, North Somerset and South Gloucestershire.

They provide the following services:

- Community Pediatricians
- Children's Therapists
- Health Visitors
- School Health Nurses
- Children's Mental Health Teams

For further information [Children's Community Health Services | South Gloucestershire \(southglos.gov.uk\)](https://www.southglos.gov.uk/childrens-community-health-services)

### **Speech and Language Therapy Team**

*The ability to communicate shapes children and young people's educational outcomes and health and wellbeing.*

*Early language development is crucial to the development of children's literacy skills, and is a key indicator of their educational success. Poor communication skills in childhood affect children and young people's life chances, are linked with social disadvantage, mental health, and long-term unemployment in adulthood.*

Royal College of Speech and language Therapist

## **The South Glos Way: A SEND and inclusion toolkit for South Gloucestershire education settings and professionals**

**Speech and language therapists** assess, diagnose and provide advice and support for children with a range of speech, language and communication difficulties. Their main areas of work include

- Speech sound difficulties (depending on a child's age)
- Difficulties with language processing, word finding and putting words into sentences
- Social interaction skills and abilities at a range of levels

For some children with complex needs we also assess eating, drinking and swallowing abilities and offer advice and support as needed.

**The speech and language therapy team** have regular family early years 'drop in' sessions. These are informal drop in sessions where parents can get advice for their child aged 0-5 years. The team also offer short information sessions for parents to learn about language development.

For further information [Early Years Speech & Language Therapy – Children and Young People's Services \(sirona-cic.org.uk\)](http://sirona-cic.org.uk)

### **Community Paediatricians**

*There is increasing evidence that early identification and intervention is important in preventing obesity and mental health problems and reducing the impacts of disability.*

Royal College of Paediatrics and Child Health

**The Paediatric Service** is available to children and young people where there are concerns about a child's health, development or educational progress. They are locality based in South Gloucestershire and see Children in Care for their regular health check and children for whom there are child protection concerns. They provide support to vulnerable children and their families, liaising with other professionals involved as appropriate. **We also provide reports for children who require an Education, Health and Care Plans.**

Referrals to a paediatrician are made using the CCHP form and for further advice about a referral use the web link to contact the Paediatric Team [Community Paediatrics – Children and Young People's Services \(sirona-cic.org.uk\)](http://sirona-cic.org.uk)

Referral for Autism Assessment – parents and practitioners can make a referral [Autism Spectrum Assessment Service – Children and Young People's Services \(sirona-cic.org.uk\)](http://sirona-cic.org.uk)

Occupational Therapist and Physiotherapy support

## **The South Glos Way: A SEND and inclusion toolkit for South Gloucestershire education settings and professionals**

[Occupational Therapy – Children and Young People's Services \(sirona-cic.org.uk\)](http://sirona-cic.org.uk)

### **Further Reading and Advice**

Children with Medical Needs Mini Guide- Nasen [Children with medical needs: What schools and settings need to know | Nasen](#)

### **Health Visiting Team**

The health visiting service in South Gloucestershire is made up of health visitors and nursery nurses who work in the community with children and families from the antenatal period until they go to school. The service offers support for parents of all children (from pregnancy to age 5).

### **For further information and advice**

Health visiting in South Gloucestershire [Health Visiting Service – Children and Young People's Services \(sirona-cic.org.uk\)](#)