

## **NHS staff who visit our school**

We have specialist health practitioners from the NHS visit our school site on a regular basis:

### **The special education nursing (SEN) team**

This is a team of paediatric and learning disability nurses that provide specialist care to children and young people with a variety of complex health needs.

They help to plan care, assess and review children's needs within school and deliver training to school staff. They will make sure that school staff know how to carry out basic health procedures that will keep children comfortable and well during the school day. Their aim is for children to successfully access education, even if they have challenges with their health.

The SEN nursing team can also provide general advice on day to day health issues such as exercise and diet, puberty and sleep

### **The community doctors**

The community doctors are specialists in child health, child development and neurodevelopmental conditions. School medicals take place at school and are offered to children with multiple and complex health needs. These are the sorts of things that a school medical can cover:

- Checking that all the right services are involved with you and your child, and referring on to others when needed
- Help with your child's general health, growth, weight and sleep
- Monitoring any long-term conditions and making sure you have access to the medication your child needs

### **The speech and language therapy team**

Communication happens all the time. Communicating with the people around them as part of everyday life is the best way for children to develop and practice their skills. A lot of children will be able to make progress with their communication skills through classroom activities and social opportunities. They won't need to see a speech and language therapist.

But some children may find communication a particular challenge and this can get frustrating for them. When this happens, speech and language therapists work with school staff, parents and carers to assess children's communication skills and suggest step by step targets for them to work on. They will provide advice and training for parents and school staff, problem solve and demonstrate approaches for the adults around the child to use that will enable them to make progress.

### **The occupational therapy and physiotherapy team**

This team provide a service for the children who have physical disabilities and require either occupational therapy or physiotherapy. Seeing children at school helps to prevent having to

miss learning time to travel/ attend therapy appointments. It also helps everyone work together to make sure support for their physical well being and development is part of the school day. The team can advise school staff on the best ways to safely move and position your child so that they are best able to join in and learn. They can also assess for specialist equipment and train staff on how to use this. Sometimes, they may do some 'hands on' work with children to help them get used to a new piece of equipment or to get them going with learning a new physical skill.

### **The orthotics service**

The orthotics service can provide callipers, specialist footwear, head and neck supports and other pieces of equipment to aid movement, correct deformity, help heal injuries and relieve pain and discomfort. They work very closely with the physiotherapy and occupational therapy teams.

### **Hearing Impairment and ear care teams**

Although NHS Audiologists don't work in school, they work closely with the Hearing Impairment Team. A qualified teacher of the deaf from this team will follow up children with a significant hearing loss in school. Children's hearing aids are also checked regularly with a visit from one of the Communication Support Workers.

### **Eye service**

Most children have their vision checked in school when they are in Reception. If your child missed this, then the Eye Service at Rotherham Hospital will come into school to screen their sight. If you have concerns about your child's sight, it's best to make an appointment with a high street optician who will be able to do a sight test for free.

### **CAMHS (mental health)**

The intellectual disability team visit school each term to offer a consultation service to school staff. They provide a service for children and young people with significant learning disabilities who have mental health issues or challenging behaviour. They can signpost to other teams in CAMHS when needed.

This service is just for children with a Rotherham GP.

### **How to get in contact with services**

If you think your child needs some help from one of the NHS team, here's what to do:

*If your child isn't under the team at the moment*, then talk to school staff or the SEN nurse to see whether a referral would be helpful.

*If your child is already under one or more of the NHS teams*, it's best to contact them direct:

#### **SEN nursing team**

*Contact details: 01709 423814*

#### **Community doctors**

*Admin team for the doctors is: 01709 426379*

**Speech and language therapy**

*Contact: 01709 423230 or 01709 423229*

**Occupational therapy and Physiotherapy**

*Contact: 01709 428859 or 01709 423988*

**Orthotics**

*Contact: 01709 424385*

**Audiology and ear care**

*Contact Audiology: 01709 423145, Hearing Impairment Team: 01709 336430*

**CAMHS (child and adolescent mental health services)**

*Contact Intellectual disability team 01709 304808*

*For general information about CAMHS, try their website*

[Getting Advice – CAMHS \(rdash.nhs.uk\)](https://rdash.nhs.uk)

For information about other NHS services that are available locally, look on Rotherham's SEND Local Offer.

[Health and Wellbeing – Rotherham SEND Local Offer](#)