

OCCUPATIONAL THERAPY TOOLKIT

INTRODUCTION

This presentation will enable you to have a quick tour of the Occupational Therapy Toolkit, so that you can understand:

- The purpose of the Toolkit
- Outline of the content
- How to use
- The referral process

What is the Occupational Therapy Toolkit?

- Occupational Therapists enable children to overcome barriers in everyday functional activities, so that they experience independence, confidence, health and wellbeing.
- The Toolkit is a resource to facilitate working in partnership as per Code of Practice for SEND (2014) between Occupational Therapy and mainstream schools.
- The Toolkit outlines activities for skill development in everyday functional activities, which schools can deliver to children identified as having challenges with their gross and fine motor co-ordination skills.

How will the Occupational Therapy Toolkit help you?

Mainstream schools are often one of the first agencies to identify a child's challenges in everyday tasks. The Toolkit will help you to:

- promote learning, achievement and wellbeing of young people;
- increase your awareness, expertise and confidence when working with young people who have difficulties with everyday functional skills.

When & How to use the Occupational Therapy Toolkit

When you identify a child as having some challenges with their gross and fine motor co-ordination skills, complete the following:-

- speak to your team to see if they have similar concerns;
- carry out more observations in everyday activities in the classroom, posture during table top activities, playground, PE and, lunchtimes.
- discuss observations with your team to clarify information gathered.

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When & how to use the Occupational Therapy Toolkit

- Meet with parents to discuss observations and find out if they have similar concerns. At this time gain consent for use of Occupational Therapy Toolkit and complete parent questionnaire (Appendix 5).
- Speak to the young person to identify which activities they would like to complete with more ease and complete questionnaire (Appendix 6).
- Use observations and information gathered to identify areas of toolkit to be used (see Chapter 5).

When and how often?

- Posture – implement strategies daily in classroom during table top activities.
- Motor skills activities – complete outside of the classroom on a 1:1 or small group basis for approx 15-20 minute sessions, ideally three times a week minimum. This provides opportunity for repetition, ongoing skill development and enables you and young person to see improvement.
- Complete activities for one whole term. This will help to see if young person has carried over skills during half term break.

When & how to refer to Occupational Therapy?

- Complete activities and strategies for one whole term.
- If concerns remain about young person's ability to complete everyday functional tasks.
- Meet with parents and young person to identify if they have noticed any changes and update parent questionnaire (Appendix 5) and child questionnaire (Appendix 6)

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When & How to refer to Occupational Therapy

Send the following to Children's Occupational Therapy Team via generic email address (Appendix 8):-

- Completed parent questionnaire (Appendix 5)
- Completed child questionnaire (Appendix 6)
- Toolkit Checklist (Appendix 7)
- Children's Therapy Referral Form (Appendix 8)

How to contact us

Children's Therapy Team at:

Telephone: 01724 203755

Email: nlg-tr.nlchildrentherapyteam@nhs.net