

## Next steps

In order to complete all assessments you will be invited to a number of appointments, as other tests may also be needed such as blood tests and x-rays. You will be asked to attend hospital for these tests if appropriate.

Following your child's assessment the paediatrician will meet with you to discuss the team's findings.

Where there are medical reasons for your child's difficulties we will provide advice on exercises and activities for you to do at home with your child. In some cases, additional advice may be given to nursery/school to help them support your child.

We will send copies of all reports to you, your child's GP, school SENCO/nurse and other professionals, unless you tell us otherwise. Your feedback is important to us so we can respond to the concerns of each child, young person and family.

If you would have any questions or would like to speak to a member of the team please call 01744 457215.

For impartial and confidential advice or information on the services provided by Bridgewater or to receive this leaflet in an alternative format call our Patient Services team on 0800 587 0562.

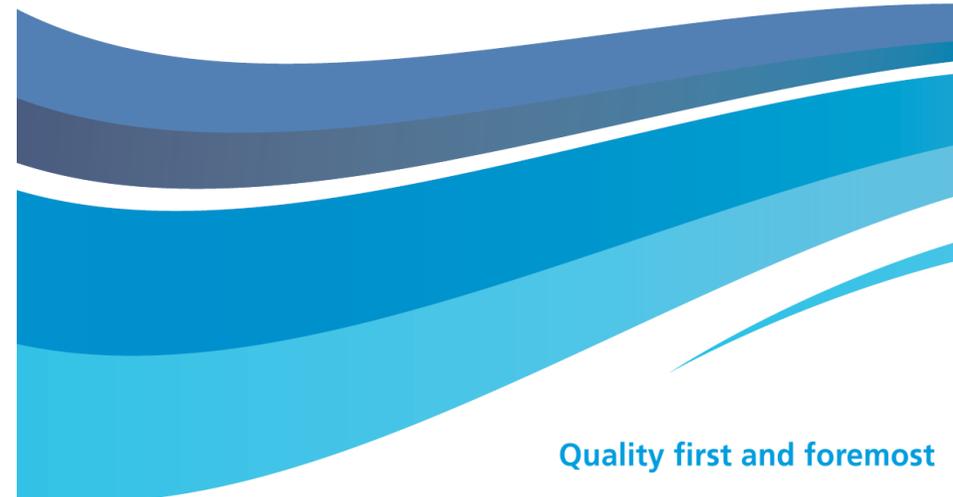
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## Community Paediatric and Looked After Children's Health Team

### Information for parents and carers



## Who are we?

We are a team of doctors, nurses and support staff who work closely to support families who have a child with a health or developmental need.

Our team also includes our Looked After Children's nurses who are specialists in responding to the health and wellbeing needs of children in care.

We support families through assessment by listening to and understanding the perspective of the child, young person and parents/carers.

## What do we do?

We work together to assess and support children and young people with a wide range of needs such as:

- Delay in development
- Physical, vision and hearing impairment
- Learning difficulties or likelihood of additional needs in school
- Social interaction and communication issues
- Attention and hyperactivity difficulties.

## Your referral and appointment

On receipt of your referral, information from your child's doctor or another health professional will be reviewed by our specialist nurses.

This may result in an appointment for an assessment by a specialist nurse or one of our doctors. You may also be signposted to other services such as health visiting, school nursing, special educational needs coordinator (SENCO) or specialist teachers.

If your child is invited for an assessment you will be sent a letter asking you to contact us **within 10 working days** to arrange an appointment. Due to high demands of the service, it is important that you do contact us **within this time frame** or your child will be discharged.

We will send you a questionnaire before you attend your appointment. You should complete this questionnaire and bring it to your first appointment. This will help our team fully understand your concerns and support us to make decisions with you about your child's care.

You may wish to think about questions you would like to ask our team. Log on to our website to see examples of questions other people have asked:

<http://www.bridgewater.nhs.uk/sthelens/community-paediatrics/>