

Useful information

Following your child's assessment a member of the team will meet with you to discuss the assessments and help develop a health plan.

Where there are medical / health reasons for your child's difficulties we may provide advice and / or a programme of 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 and other professionals, unless you tell us otherwise.

Information about the provision available in the area for children and young people who have additional needs is available via the local offer and also via Bridgewater website.

www.bridgewater.nhs.uk

www.thelocaloffer.co.uk

<https://askollie.warrington.gov.uk/localoffer/site/index.php>

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.

 [www.twitter.com/Bridgewater_NHS](https://twitter.com/Bridgewater_NHS)

 www.facebook.com/BridgewaterNHS

Visit our website at: www.bridgewater.nhs.uk



**Bridgewater
Community Healthcare**
NHS Foundation Trust

Children with additional health needs assessments in Warrington

**Information for parents and carers to
be given at the point of referral**

Who are we?

We are a team of health care professionals, including doctors, nurses and therapy staff who work together to support families who have a child with a health or additional need

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.

Sometimes when assessments are complete, it is clear that a child needs assistance but there is no specific name or diagnosis for a child's needs.

Our focus is to identify strengths and difficulties of the individual to allow the child and family to receive the appropriate support and access the provision that we are able to offer.

Your referral and appointment

When we get a referral all the information is reviewed by our team. If the referral is not accepted we will let your referrer know. We will explain why the referral is not being accepted and will try to signpost to other services, if this is possible.

If the referral is accepted you will be invited to make appointments with the professionals who will be involved in your child's assessment. These may be specialist nurses, therapists or some of our assistants. Sometimes a doctor may be involved.

We will write to you asking you to contact us to arrange appointments. It is important that you get in touch so we can offer appointments that are convenient for you.

We may send you questionnaires before you attend your appointments. You should complete these and bring them to your appointments. This will help our team fully understand your concerns and support us to make decisions, with you, about your child's care.

You may also wish to think about any questions you would like to ask our team.

In order to complete all the assessments you will be invited to a number of appointments and this is likely to take place over a number of months.

Other tests may be needed such as blood tests and x-rays; you will be asked to attend hospital for these tests if they are needed.