

**If you have any questions or queries, please contact us on:**

Telephone: 01942 483713

Monday to Friday: 8.00am to 5pm

An answering machine is available outside these times and at the weekends.

Email: [mobilitycentre@bridgewater.nhs.uk](mailto:mobilitycentre@bridgewater.nhs.uk)

**Visit our website at:**

<http://www.bridgewater.nhs.uk/northwestwide/northwestdrivingassessmentservice/>

**or tweet us:**

@nwdrivingassess

Local Community Pharmacy – Your local community pharmacies offer a wide range of services including information and general advice on symptom relief medicines as well as a prescription collection and delivery service.

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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## Children's Car Seat and Harness Assessments

**NHS**  
Bridgewater  
Community Healthcare  
NHS Foundation Trust

## Car seat assessment clinic

The Driving Assessment Service offers car seat and harness assessments and advice for children with a range of disabilities or who have challenging behaviours.

This service is offered in conjunction with Windmill Special Needs Limited who will bring along for the assessment, forward and rear facing, swivel and tilting car seats in a wide range of sizes.

### What is the cost and do I need an appointment?

The assessment service is offered at no cost to families or referring health professionals.

All assessments are by appointment only following receipt of a completed application form.

## Who can refer to the service?

The service accepts referrals from health professionals, for example the child's Occupational Therapist, Physiotherapist, Health Visitor or G.P.

Application forms and further information on the assessment process are available from the service.

## What does the assessment involve?

Following an initial discussion in order to gather information about the needs of the child and their family there will be the opportunity to try a range of car seats in order to identify the most appropriate for the child.

The compatibility of the car seat and the family's current vehicle will also be checked during the assessment.

Recommendations on the most suitable equipment will be given on the day followed up with a report listing the information/advice given during the assessment.

## How long does the assessment last?

An assessment usually takes about two hours, but it may be longer or shorter depending upon the particular needs of the child and their family.

Assessments take place inside the centre, assessing and fitting the child for the most appropriate car seat or harness. Then the family's own vehicle will be checked to ensure the chosen seat/harness can be correctly fitted and is compatible.

### Other Assessments offered include:

The Driving Assessment Service can also give advice on equipment/wheelchair loading and also passenger access issues.

For clients 16 years plus we also offer driving and scooter assessments.