

How do I access an Occupational Therapist?

School staff, families and other professionals can access our Occupational Therapy Helpline **01932 558 570** (open Tuesdays and Thursdays from 2pm to 4pm) for practical Occupational Therapy advice, strategies and support.

Resources including advice sheets, apps, videos and links are available on our website:

<https://childrenshealthsurrey.nhs.uk/services/occupational-therapy>

Special Schools in Surrey should contact their local Occupational Therapy team and/or named Occupational Therapist to discuss specific children and whether a referral is required. Families can raise concerns to their teachers.

Your experiences

CSH Surrey is committed to putting people first and continually improving services through listening and responding to feedback.

To share your experiences, or to receive this information in large print, audio format or another language. please:

Call 020 8394 3846/43

Email CSH.communications@nhs.net

Or write to the Head Office address below.

General enquiries

Visit www.cshsurrey.co.uk for information and contact details for all other CSH Surrey services.

CSH Surrey, Head Office
Ewell Court Clinic, Ewell Court Avenue
Ewell, Epsom, KT19 0DZ

Occupational Therapy in SPECIAL SCHOOLS

Better healthcare together

CSH Surrey, providing NHS community nursing and therapy services in the homes, schools, clinics and hospitals in the heart of Surrey since 2006.

Occupational Therapy enhances engagement and participation in school life

The Occupational Therapy service is jointly commissioned by Health and Education and provided by Children and Family Health Surrey (NHS) to meet the Health and Education needs of children attending Special Schools in Surrey.

The aim is to provide an Occupational Therapy service that is integrated throughout each special school setting, in partnership with parents/carers, teachers, school staff and other professionals to help children achieve their full potential.

What does Occupational Therapy focus on in Special Schools?

The Occupational Therapy service provides assessment, intervention, advice and environmental adaptations/equipment to help address the difficulties a child/young person may be experiencing with engagement and participation in occupations of daily life including:

- Self-care (regulating emotions and sensory needs, dressing, grooming, feeding)
- School skills (focus and attention, using tools including pencils, scissors, PE)
- Leisure activities (choices in free time, relaxation, play)

The OT team uses a person, occupation, environment approach to intervention ensuring that all factors are considered to enable children/young people to achieve their potential.

How are Occupational Therapy services provided in Special Schools?

Most Special Schools will have a named Occupational Therapist(s) and sometimes Occupational Therapy assistant. Input may be direct or indirect depending on the needs of the child and includes:

Whole class or whole School (universal) input which empowers school staff and families to use a range of strategies embedded within daily routines

Targeted or group input to build school staff and family skills through modelling specialist strategies and delivering programmes:

Specialist input for children with high clinical needs where universal and targeted provision cannot meet their needs: