Specialist Support Team
Child and Adolescent Mental Health Service for Children with Learning Disabilities
Who are we?
Our team provides a service to children who have a significant learning disability and additional complex behavioural or mental health needs.

We aim to work in partnership with families and other agencies involved with the child or young person, carrying out assessments and interventions with individuals, families or groups, or offering consultation to agencies.

As well as other mental health services, we also have a close working relationship with Children and Young Peoples’ Services, including social workers, short break services and special schools.

Who is in the team?
The team is made up of a number of different professions, including Psychology, Learning Disability Nursing, Psychiatry and Therapy, as well as administrative support.

How do we work?
We work closely together, sharing our skills and knowledge with each other and with parents and carers, in order to:

- **Help, understand and change patterns of behaviour or feelings that are distressing or unhelpful**

- **Develop child-centred interventions and plans based on knowledge of learning disability, mental health and medicine**

- **Work alongside young people and their families, providing support and advice where relevant, assessing the problem/need and devising plans to help**
What are the referral criteria?
We accept referrals to the service from children and young people who:
- are 18 years of age or under; normally over five years
- are resident in Rotherham or registered with a Rotherham GP
- have a significant learning disability
- display severe challenging behaviour, or mental health problems that require the input of a specialist provision

How are referrals made?
Referrals are accepted from relevant health, education and social care staff, and are to be made on a Common Assessment Form (CAF) via the Single Point of Access to CAMHS. Parents and carers could ask their School Nurse, Social Worker, Primary Health Care Worker or Paediatrician to do this

Professionals or parents/carers who wish to discuss possible referrals to our service can do so by contacting the team.

What happens after the referral has been made?
Once a referral is received by the Single Point of Access team, they will determine the most appropriate service for your referral. They may contact you to arrange an assessment of your needs, or will pass your referral directly to the Specialist Support Team. Once we receive your referral we will then allocate your case as priority or routine, and either make you an appointment or place you on our waiting list for specialist assessment and / or intervention.

You will be kept informed at all stages of the process.

How long will I have to wait for an appointment?
If we judge your case to be a priority we will aim to see you within six weeks of receiving your referral. Otherwise we will see you as soon as possible and you will receive some input within 14 weeks

Where will we be seen?
After receiving your referral we will contact you and ask you to indicate where it would be most convenient for us to meet – for you to come and see us, to meet at home or at school.

What will happen at our first appointment?
Sometimes we will meet with you and your child, sometimes with parents/carers alone. When we meet, we will talk about the difficulties you are experiencing and come to an agreement about your family’s needs. Together we will formulate a plan or find others who can help.

Contact Us:
Kimberworth Place, Kimberworth Road
Kimberworth, Rotherham S61 1HE
Tel: (01709) 447644
We value your comments

If you have any suggestions or concerns you can speak to any member of staff or practice manager, alternatively you can speak or write to: Patient Advice and Liaison Service, Rotherham Doncaster and South Humber NHS Foundation Trust, Woodfield House, St Catherine’s Tickhill Road, Balby, Doncaster DN4 8QN

For general information on Rotherham and Doncaster South Humber health services please contact Patient Advice & Liaison Service (PALS) on 0800 015 4334

For more information about how we use and protect your information see “The Protection and Use of Patient Information” leaflet available from NHS Rotherham sites and GP surgeries.

This leaflet can also be supplied in braille, audio format, PDF, large print and other languages on request.

Children and Young People’s Mental Health Services