

THERAPY IN SCHOOLS

Supporting children in Doncaster schools

Therapy in Schools is a new service that sets out to meet the needs of school-aged children in Doncaster. Our team is made up of occupational therapists, physiotherapists, and speech and language therapists. We aim to work with parents/carers, teachers, and school staff to make sure your child is getting the most of their time in school.

The Therapy in School team

Each member of the team has a different role:

- **Speech and Language Therapist** - supporting your child's development of speech, language and communication skills
- **Occupational Therapist** – promoting independence in everyday activities
- **Physiotherapist** – promoting physical development, normal movement, and posture
- **Assistants/child support worker** – supporting the therapist.

How are children supported in school?

Your child will be seen by a therapist, who, together with teaching staff, will identify his/her particular strengths and needs, and will work out programmes of work. Your child will then be helped to follow these programmes by a member of the Therapy in Schools team or by school staff.

The therapist may share ideas with teaching staff about what is the best way to help your child in school. The therapist may also suggest ideas to be included in your child's Individual Education Plan (learning targets that your child is working towards at school) and will also contribute to your child's School Annual Review by attending the review in person or, if this is not possible, through writing a report.

Which children are seen by the Therapy in Schools Team?

The Therapy in Schools team supports children with a variety of additional needs. For example, we work with children who have difficulty:

- understanding and using language
- with speech sounds
- with poor attention and listening
- understanding the rules of conversation
- feeding and dressing
- with play and social skills
- with balance, movement and walking
- coping with movement, touch, taste, smell, visual stimuli and noise.

Your child may be supported in a school setting, their home, local clinic or hospital, depending upon where is most suitable for their needs.

How can you help?

When your child is first seen by a member of the Therapy in Schools team, the therapist will discuss with you how they hope to help.

You will be kept informed of when the therapist will be visiting school either in writing or by phone. You are always welcome to see the therapist at school when they visit your child and you should arrange this with the school and the therapist.

The therapist will write down some ideas and activities for your child. You can help by supporting your child in these ideas and activities at home.

Contact details:

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