



Child Development Service

CHILDRENS OCCUPATIONAL THERAPY SERVICE

Occupational therapy provides services for children who are experiencing difficulty participating in their daily activities (or occupations).

Occupations for children and young people may include, for example:

Self-care: getting ready to leave the house, getting dressed, eating meals, and using cutlery, preparing simple meals and participating in hygiene routines such as toileting, brushing teeth and bathing, etc.

Productivity (participation in nursery, school or any educational /vocational activities): using tools and materials in the classroom, following school routines, attention and concentration, participating in PE lessons, accessing computers and technology and handwriting, etc.

Leisure and play: playing sports, playing age-appropriate games, playing with friends, doing hobbies, accessing community facilities and services, etc.

Occupational therapy aims to enable children to improve their function and participation (in occupations) and to enhance their well-being.

Occupational therapy can help babies, children and young people who may need support and advice if they are not able to participate in daily activities due to family circumstances, disability or illness or as a result of changes faced as they transition through key life stages.

Our family-centred service aims to promote, develop and provide high quality, efficient and accessible therapy services to the children of Guernsey and Alderney. Therapy intervention will usually occur in the child's natural environment such as; the home and school setting or relevant recreational/community settings. However, assessments may take place in the occupational therapy clinic using specialist aids and equipment.

Interventions may include:

Assessment of the underlying factors contributing to the child's functional difficulties

Advice or therapy to enable the child to participate in their occupations to the best of their ability

Close liaison with parents/carers, teachers and other professionals regarding ongoing support of the child

Meet the team:

Vanessa Battle (Senior Paediatric Occupational Therapist)

Jenny Hutchison (Senior Paediatric Occupational Therapist)

Ros Wilson (Paediatric Occupational Therapy Assistant)

Raney MacPherson (Lead Paediatric Occupational Therapist)

Please see refer to our resources for further ideas and activities for the development of fine motor, sensory and self-care skills.