



A- Z OF CHILDREN'S SERVICES

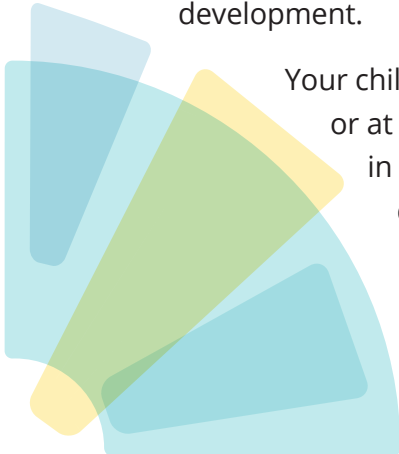
Finding your way through the maze of services can be confusing, especially if there are many professionals involved and if you are waiting for your child to be diagnosed.

Services are provided by a number of different agencies, primarily:

- ▶ NHS Borders
- ▶ Scottish Borders Council Children and Young People's Department

Child development teams

Child development teams are made up of a variety of health professionals and include paediatricians, physiotherapists, speech therapists and other specialists, who work together to assess and support a child's development.



Your child may be treated by NHS Borders or at the Sick Children's Hospital in Edinburgh depending on the diagnosis.

Your GP can refer your child to be seen by the child development team.

Child and Adolescent Mental Health Services (CAMHS)

NHS Borders CAMHS team is based at the Andrew Lang Unit in Selkirk and they are specially trained to support a wide range of emotional and behavioural problems and the psychological and mental well-being of children and young people. This can include helping you and others work with your child to understand how to best support their learning and behaviour.

Speak to your local GP, paediatrician or child development team to find out about CAMHS referrals.

The team is made up of a variety of professionals including Psychiatrists, Psychologists, Paediatricians, Psychotherapist, Nurses, Occupational Therapists, Speech and Language Therapists and other Clinicians. The team works closely with other professionals based in the community including GP's, School Nurses, Health Visitors, Teachers and Social Work amongst others.

The CAMHS team sees children, young people and their parents from age 5, or sometimes younger, up to the age of 18.

Community Dentist

Community Dentists treat people who are not able to get to their dental surgery because of a medical condition, disability or additional needs. Community Dentists may be available at your local hospital, or health centre. Speak to your local GP, paediatrician or child development team to find out about the Community Dentist service.

Contenance service

Contenance services can give you advice on toilet training and provide you with free continence products once a child reaches a certain age, (usually around four). In some areas this is provided by specialist nurses. Speak to your local GP, paediatrician or child development team to find out how to be referred.



“It’s really important to make sure that everyone involved actually talks to each other”

Wheelchair and equipment services

NHS wheelchair and equipment services can carry out an assessment to determine whether your child needs a wheelchair or other mobility aid. If your child is eligible they will be provided with equipment appropriate to their need. Speak to your local GP, paediatrician or child development team to find out how to be referred.

Learning/Behavioural Support Teachers

Learning/Behavioural Support Teachers teach identified pupils with a range of additional support needs either in an enhanced setting or through support delivered in mainstream schools.

They provide effective resource and classroom management, develop Individualised Educational Programmes (IEPs) and contribute to the planning, reviewing and evaluating of Coordinated Support Plans and Integrated Assessments. They support other staff in schools and also contribute to training and group or project work.

Additional Needs Assistants (ANAs)

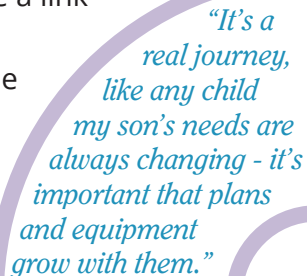
Additional Needs Assistants (ANAs) work in schools to support children and young people, working closely and co-operatively with teaching staff to support the needs of pupils identified as having additional needs. ANAs may help children and young people with written and verbal communication, using IT, listening to and following instructions, mobility, or self care. ANAs prepare resources and materials for use in the classroom and assist in the development, implementation and monitoring of Individual Educational Programmes (IEPs) as required.

Educational Psychologists

Educational Psychologists promote psychological health and wellbeing and teaching and learning for all children and young people. They work in partnership with children and young people, parents, educational establishments and a range of other agencies. Their work supports children, young people and adults up to 24 across a wide range of settings.

Home-school Link Workers

Home-School Link Workers provide a link between families and schools and provide co-ordinated support to the most vulnerable children and their families. They develop positive relationships with parents and provide a wide range of advice and assistance to manage



"It's a real journey, like any child my son's needs are always changing - it's important that plans and equipment grow with them."

any issues that may arise with school attendance or attainment. This can include recommending and developing strategies at home and within the school to manage truancy or poor preparation for school, working with identified children during the school day on a 1:1 or small group basis, and helping to manage and resolve communication, behavioural or relationship issues, which are causing a barrier to the child's learning.

If you feel that your child needs additional support for learning, the first person to speak to is your child's teacher.



Notes





Borders Carers Centre (SCIO)

Supporting carers throughout the Borders

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