



## School Referral to NHS Services



In school, we have lots of experience providing support to pupils who might be having difficulties in a range of areas. Sometimes, more specialist support might be appropriate and, schools can refer to NHS services to request this support.

### Why a Referral May Be Suggested

- **Speech and Language (SALT)** Concerns: Difficulties with speaking, understanding language, or communication.
- **Motor Skills and Coordination:** Challenges with writing, balance, or muscle control.
- **Developmental Delays:** Concerns about growth, behaviour, or social skills.

### Understanding the Services

\* **SALT** services focus on helping children with communication difficulties. This may include:

- **Assessment of Speech and Language Skills:** Identifying specific areas of difficulty.
- **Therapy Sessions:** Tailored strategies to improve communication skills.
- **Support for Families:** Guidance on how to support your child's communication development at home.

\* **Occupational Therapy (OT)** services help children with everyday activities and skills, such as:

- **Fine Motor Skills:** improving abilities such as using cutlery or doing up buttons.
- **Gross Motor Skills:** Improving abilities related to movement and coordination.
- **Sensory Processing:** Supporting children who have difficulty processing sensory information.

### \* **Community Paediatrician**

- Community paediatricians are medical doctors specialising in child health. They can provide:
  - **Medical Assessments:** Comprehensive evaluations of your child's health and development.
  - **Neurodiversity Investigation:** Comprehensive assessment of a broad range of neurodiverse conditions.
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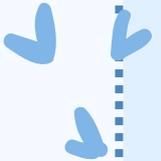


## The Referral Process

- 1. Initial Discussion:** Teachers will discuss their concerns with you and suggest a referral to NHS services.
- 2. Consent:** You will be asked to provide consent for the referral. This ensures that you agree with the school's decision to seek additional support.
- 3. Evidence from school** will be provided in a format determined by your GP; you will need to take this to the GP and request a referral.
- 4. Referral accepted/ refused:** You will receive information about this directly from your family GP; school does not receive any information at this point, so please keep us informed.

## Your Role as a Parent

- **Stay Informed:** Ask questions and seek clarification if you have any concerns or need more information.
- **Participate:** Attend meetings and therapy sessions whenever possible to support your child's development.
- **Collaborate:** Work with teachers and therapists to ensure consistent support at school and home.



## Waiting lists

Unfortunately, current waiting lists for these NHS services are very long. It can be very challenging to cope during this waiting period, but there are many services who can support you during this time.

Here is a selection of some of the services available:



<https://www.leicspart.nhs.uk/autism-space/lpt-digital-services/chatautism-text-messaging-support-service/>



[https://www.facebook.com/groups/leicestershiresendhub/?locale=en\\_GB](https://www.facebook.com/groups/leicestershiresendhub/?locale=en_GB)



<https://www.leicspart.nhs.uk/services/help-support-resources/?v=12927>

<https://www.leicspart.nhs.uk/service/childrens-occupational-therapy-service/#:~:text=Service%20description,more%20productive%20and%20enjoyable%20lives.>