

# Special Educational Needs clinic (SEN clinic)

## Information for families

**This leaflet explains about Special Educational Needs medical assessment clinic. If you have any further questions, please speak to a doctor or nurse caring for your child.**

## What is the Special Educational Needs medical assessment clinic?

The SEN clinic is run by the paediatricians at St George's Hospital. Children and young people up to the age of 18 years are invited to attend this clinic to identify if they have any medical needs that may impact on their education, for example Developmental Delay, Cerebral Palsy or Autism Spectrum Disorder.

Following the appointment, a medical report will be written to ensure your child's medical needs are considered and supported, if needed at school. The recommendations made from this clinic will be the medical recommendations only. The report will be included in your child's Educational Health Care Needs Assessment (EHCNA).

## Before the appointment

- The SEN clinic is a specialist clinic where appointments need to be booked in advance.
- You will be sent an appointment letter. Please let us know at the earliest opportunity if you are unable to attend the appointment.
- If you have any questions, or need to re-arrange the appointment, the clinic coordinator can be contacted on 020 8725 4854 (Monday to Friday, 9am to 5pm).

## **What will happen at my child's appointment?**

- Your child will be assessed by one of the paediatricians in the Neurodevelopment team. The appointment will last for about an hour and will be either in person or over the telephone, depending on what is felt best after looking at your child's medical records.
- The doctor will ask lots of questions about your child. They will write detailed notes including details about your child's birth, growth and development, past medical history, medications, any behavioural difficulties, family history and how they currently function at home and school.
- The doctor will examine your child.
- You will be able to stay with your child throughout the assessment.
- If you need any extra support, such as a language interpreter, please inform us as soon as you receive the appointment letter so we can arrange this for you.
- Detailed notes about your child will be written by the doctor, including details about their birth development and growth, medical problems, behaviour problems and the family set up for how your child currently functions.

## **What if I cannot make the clinic appointment?**

- We are required to meet tight deadlines for completing your child's medical report.  
If you do not attend the appointment, these deadlines may be missed and your child's EHCNA may be delayed.
- We can offer two appointment dates for the assessment.  
Unfortunately, if both appointments are missed, we will need to discharge your child and notify the Education Department.

## **Where do I need to go?**

Your child will be seen in the Children's Outpatients' Department, which is located on the ground floor of Lanesborough Wing, St George's Hospital. Please report to the reception area when you arrive. Please read the appointment letter, to check for any possible changes in the clinic venue.

## **What do I need to bring with me?**

Please bring copies of any information or assessments you would like us to review and your child's red book.

## **Information for younger children**

- The Special Educational Needs clinic is a clinic run by the children's doctors at St George's Hospital. There is nothing to be worried about.

## **What will happen at the appointment?**

- Special Educational Needs clinic is a clinic run by children's doctors.
- Our doctors are very friendly, they will speak to you and your family / carers.
- The doctor will need check you and may listen to your chest and may touch your tummy, if you don't want to be touched, please tell us and we will respect this.
- If you have any questions or worries, please tell us and we will go through your worries and try to resolve them with you and your family.

## **Useful sources of information**

- The Local Offer Wandsworth:  
[www.wandsworth.gov.uk/localoffer](http://www.wandsworth.gov.uk/localoffer)
- Council for disabled children: [Council for Disabled Children](http://www.councilfordisabledchildren.org.uk)
- SEND in Mind: [www.bwwmind.org.uk/send-in-mind](http://www.bwwmind.org.uk/send-in-mind)

- SEN Talk: <https://sentalk.org>

## Contact us

If you have any questions or concerns about the SEN clinic or if you need to change your clinic appointment, please contact the clinic coordinator on 020 8725 4854 (Monday to Friday, 9am to 5pm).

**For more information leaflets on conditions, procedures, treatments and services offered at our hospitals, please visit [www.stgeorges.nhs.uk](http://www.stgeorges.nhs.uk)**

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## Additional services

### Patient Advice and Liaison Service (PALS)

PALS can offer you advice and information when you have comments or concerns about our services or care. You can contact the PALS team on the advisory telephone line Monday, Tuesday, Thursday and Friday from 2pm to 5pm.

A Walk-in service is available:

Monday, Tuesday and Thursday between 10am and 4pm

Friday between 10am and 2pm.

Please contact PALS in advance to check if there are any changes to opening times.

The Walk-in and Advisory telephone services are closed on Wednesdays.

PALS is based within the hospital in the ground floor main corridor between Grosvenor and Lanesborough Wing.

**Tel:** 020 8725 2453 **Email:** [pals@stgeorges.nhs.uk](mailto:pals@stgeorges.nhs.uk)

## NHS Choices

NHS Choices provides online information and guidance on all aspects of health and healthcare, to help you make decisions about your health. **Web:** [www.nhs.uk](http://www.nhs.uk)

## NHS 111

You can call 111 when you need medical help fast but it's not a 999 emergency. NHS 111 is available 24 hours a day, 365 days a year. Calls are free from landlines and mobile phones. **Tel:** 111

## AccessAble

You can download accessibility guides for all our services by searching 'St George's Hospital' on the AccessAble website ([www.accessable.co.uk](http://www.accessable.co.uk)). The guides are designed to ensure everyone – including those with accessibility needs – can access our hospital and community sites with confidence.



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