

Caudwell Children Autism Service Service Guide



caudwell
Children

Changing Children's Lives
RCN 1079770
SC 043674





Introduction to the service

Caudwell International Children's Centre has been purpose built to provide an environment that meets the needs of children with an Autism Spectrum Disorder (ASD). The design was developed over several years by the charity's Chief Executive, Trudi Beswick, in consultation with children, parents/carers, clinicians and people with autism.

The state-of-the-art facility was funded by the charity's founder, Mr John Caudwell, and a group of individuals, businesses and organisations known as The Legacy Circle.

What is Autism?

Autism is a lifelong, developmental disability that affects how a person communicates with and relates to other people, and how they experience the world around them.

(The National Autistic Society 2017)

How do we help?

Caudwell Children Autism Services provides:

- Multi-disciplinary assessment for ASD
- Occupational Therapy & Sensory Integration Assessment
- Workshop programme to support children and families post diagnosis

ASD assessment

Caudwell Children Autism Service offers a multi disciplinary approach to assessment, intervention and support.

Our experienced and dedicated clinical multi-disciplinary team (MDT) work with families to undertake a holistic and child centred assessment of their strengths and difficulties including behaviour, emotional health and well-being, communication and sensory processing needs.

Our team is made up of:

- Speech and Language Therapists
- Occupational Therapists
- Clinical Psychologists
- Registered Learning Disability Nurses
- Specialty Doctor
- Assistants



Families undergoing an assessment for ASD will receive:

■ **Multi-disciplinary assessment for ASD**

Two day child centred assessment from a dedicated multi-disciplinary team

■ **Feedback**

Individual feedback appointment following the assessment, a detailed report and recommendations for intervention and support

■ **Intervention**

Places for two people to attend two days of workshops which will provide parents/carers and/or their child with information, practical advice and helpful strategies

■ **Family Support**

12 months emotional and practical support for the family throughout the referral, assessment and post diagnosis period

■ **Information and advice**

Signposting and support to relevant services and access to specialist information

■ **Review**

Outcomes based measures to monitor and evidence development

Cost: £4700

Occupational Therapy & Sensory Integration Assessment

Occupational Therapy enables people of all ages to participate in daily life. Daily life is made up of different activities (occupations). Children's occupations include: self-care (toileting, dressing, washing), learning (nursery or school) and play (interest, friends, hobbies).

Occupational Therapists look at the child's ability to engage in occupations and provide support and intervention to help them do what they need and want to do.



What is Sensory Integration?

Sensory Integration (SI) is part of normal development. It allows us to use information from our senses to interact with our environment which helps us do things such as getting dressed, socialising, playing and learning.

If there is a problem with how we process sensory information then engaging in daily life can become challenging. Sensory problems may result in children experiencing the following difficulties with their daily activities:

- Distress with self-care activities such as washing, tooth brushing, hair brushing
- Excessive need for intense movement (swinging, jumping, rocking, spinning)
- Poor organisational skills of themselves and their environment
- Difficulties managing their energy levels throughout the day
- Poor concentration and attention impacting on learning
- Excessively cautious about trying new activities
- Under or over reactive to lights, sounds, smell, movement or touch impacting on functioning
- Clumsy, awkward or accident prone
- Difficulties with toileting

Our SI trained Occupational Therapists will collect information on the child's strengths and difficulties in completing daily activities.

Families may be asked to complete questionnaires and take part in standardised assessments in our purpose built, fully equipped Sensory Integration room.

Families undergoing an Occupational Therapy & Sensory Integration assessment will receive:

- Occupational Therapy Assessment – child centred assessment from a dedicated SI-trained team
- Individual feedback appointment following the assessment, a detailed report and recommendations for intervention and support.
- Intervention – Places for two people to attend one day of workshops which will provide parents/carers and/or their child with information, practical advice and helpful strategies.
- Family Support – 12 months emotional and practical support for the family throughout the referral, assessment and post diagnosis period.
- Information and advice – Signposting and support to relevant services and access to specialist information
- Review – outcomes based measures to monitor and evidence development

Cost: £1500

Workshop programme

Caudwell Children Autism Service offers a range of workshops for parents/carers and children to provide practical advice, support and information following diagnosis.

Workshops cover essential areas for intervention including behaviour, communication skills, mental health, sensory needs, mealtimes, play and social skills.

For a full list of the workshops available visit:
www.caudwellchildren.com/services/autism/
or telephone 0345 300 1348

Cost: Half-day workshop - £125 per place
Whole-day workshop - £250 per place

Who can we see?

Children aged between 4 and 11 years who, at the time of referral:

- have difficulties which suggest they would benefit from a multi-disciplinary diagnostic assessment for Autistic Spectrum Disorder **or**
- have a diagnosis of Autistic Spectrum Disorder and difficulties that may be helped by an Occupational Therapy Sensory Integration assessment.
- Workshops are available to all families who have a child aged 4-11 years with a diagnosis of Autistic Spectrum Disorder, or are under investigation for the same, and have difficulties that may benefit from specialist help.

Who can refer?

We accept referrals from any health, education or social care professional who knows the child and family well.

Families attending workshops only do not require a referral.

How to refer a child

Fill in the referral form online or print and send it to us in the post. Please give as much detail as possible, completing all sections of the form.

Parents/carers must be able to provide fully informed consent for their child to be referred to the service and be willing to travel to the centre.

The multi-disciplinary team will review all new referrals.

If we have all the necessary information to accept the referral and offer a place, the referrer and family will be informed.

If we need more information to make a decision, we will contact the referrer.

If we are unable to accept the referral, we will let the referrer know the decision and provide recommendations for further appropriate support.

If families require Caudwell Children funding, this will need to be agreed before the family are offered an appointment.

Applying for funding

There are currently two funding routes available for children and their families to access the service:

- Charity funded
- Self funded

Please visit www.caudwellchildren.com/services/autism/ or telephone 0345 300 1348 for further details of the funding application process and eligibility criteria.

If you would like further information please contact us:

Caudwell Children

Caudwell International Children's Centre

Keele Science & Innovation Park

Newcastle-under-Lyme

Staffordshire

ST5 5NT

 0345 300 1348

 www.caudwellchildren.com

 charity@caudwellchildren.com

If you require assistance in reading or understanding this document please contact us and we will be happy to help.



 0345 300 1348

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