

Your opinion matters

Oxleas NHS Foundation Trust is committed to providing the highest standards of care, so we welcome your views on the services we provide. If you would like to comment, make a suggestion or make a complaint, please speak to the person you normally see or ask to speak to the team manager.

You may also like to speak to our Patient Advice and Liaison Service (PALS) by ringing the freephone number on 0800 917 7159.

Confidentiality

All our staff are required to abide by a strict code of conduct on confidentiality. We will only share information with those who need to know in order to provide good quality care. Occasionally there may be exceptions to this, for example to support a clinical audit or to monitor the quality of care provided. We will usually discuss this with you beforehand.

Facilities

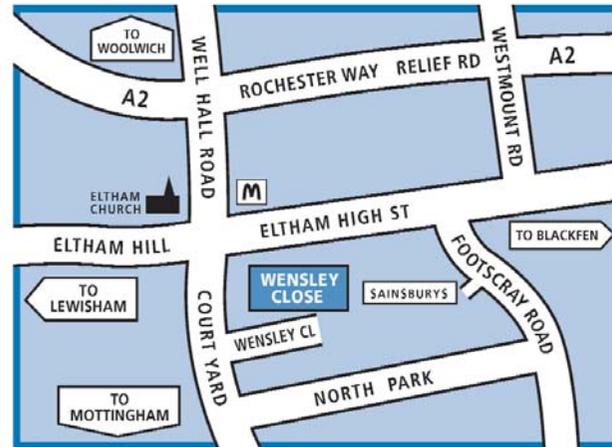
There are no crèche arrangements at the Child Development Centre so please make alternative arrangements for any other children you may have.

You will have access to drinking water at the centre but please also bring a drink and a snack for your child.

There is disabled access to the centre.

The team administrator will be available to help you with any queries you have on the day. Some limited parking is available but the Centre is within walking distance from bus stops.

How to find us



Contact us

The Joint Communication Clinic Team
Child Development Centre
3 Wensley Close, Eltham
London SE9 5AB
Tel: 020 8294 3118
Fax: 020 8850 0087

www.oxleas.nhs.uk

Greenwich Community Health Services

The Joint Communication Clinic



Information for
parents and
carers

June 2012

improving lives

Oxleas **NHS**
NHS Foundation Trust

Why have I been given this leaflet?

You have been given this leaflet because your child has been referred to the Joint Communication Clinic for a detailed assessment of their social communication and interaction difficulties. This will take place at the Child Development Centre, in Wensley Close, Eltham.

Your child may have difficulties with:

- communication skills and development
- interacting with other children
- knowing how to play and learn in a flexible way.

The reasons for these difficulties are often complex. We will work with you and your child to explore their difficulties and consider whether any specific conditions could explain them. Possible explanations that we may consider will include autism spectrum disorder (difficulties in social interaction, social communication and play with some rigid repetitive behaviour), a speech and language disorder or language delay. We will also consider other possible conditions and refer your child to other services as required.

Who will assess my child?

The assessment team includes a community paediatrician (a doctor who specialises in children's development) and a specialist speech and language

therapist. All professionals involved have considerable experience in working with children and young people who have social and communication disorders.

The team will also contact any other professionals who are involved with your child, before the assessment takes place. This may include school based staff, your child's paediatrician, speech and language therapist, clinical psychologist, educational psychologist, occupational therapist, physiotherapist or health visitor.

Please bring along any medical reports you have for your child including their red book (personal child health record).

About the assessment

Your child will be offered an appointment to see the community paediatrician and speech and language therapist at the Child Development Centre.

During this appointment the paediatrician will discuss your child's development, social skills, communication, play and behaviour with you. The speech and language therapist will interact with your child using a range of different play materials and gather information about how your child communicates, plays and interacts.

The assessment will take between two and four hours. You are welcome to ask questions during the assessment.

After the assessment

The paediatrician and speech and language therapist will produce a profile of your child's strengths and needs and discuss this in detail with you.

A follow up appointment will be offered if needed.

If required, the speech and language therapist will liaise with your child's community or school speech and language therapist regarding ongoing speech and language therapy care

We will agree with you, the list of professionals who will receive a copy of the report.

Following discussion with you, we will also make any onward referrals necessary to support services as appropriate.

What will happen at the follow up appointment?

A paediatrician and/or a speech and language therapist will be present. You will be informed where the appointment will be and if further tests are required

During the follow up appointment you will have a further opportunity to ask any questions you may have and to discuss what happens next.