

Cheyne Child Development Service

Our service provides specialist assessment and healthcare therapy for children with significant developmental needs, including those who are likely to have difficulty accessing learning.

The service is committed to a child and family centred approach, and is organised into three geographically based teams:

Parkview Health and Wellbeing Centre
First Floor
Cranston Court
56 Bloemfontein Road
London
W12 7FG

Doughty House
Chelsea and Westminster Hospital
369 Fulham Road
London
SW10 9NH

South Westminster Centre for Health
82 Vincent Square
London
SW1P 2PF

Social Worker

The social worker for the Child Development service may visit you at home before the MDA to discuss it with you, answer any questions you may have, and talk about local services and resources that may be helpful.

The social worker may also act as a link person with the local social services office and can assist in claiming Disability Allowance.

Specialist Health Visitor (020 8846 6470)

The specialist health visitor is a health visitor with experience of working with families who have children with special needs.

He/she will work together with your family health visitor or school nurse to help you access community services that will offer you and your child the relevant support.

He/she can offer advice on the telephone or may do home visits to assess your family's needs. A visit can be offered before your child's MDA so that you can access the relevant services before your hospital appointment.

More information

If you would like more information about our service or wish to discuss your child's needs, please contact the co-ordinator on **020 8846 1606** or **020 8846 6488**.

Cheyne Child Development Service

Doughty House
Chelsea and Westminster Hospital
369 Fulham Road
London, SW10 9NH

T: 020 3315 8000

W: www.chelwest.nhs.uk

July 2015

العربية • [Somali] • فارسی • Español
Polska • Português • Русский
[Bengali] • [Tigrinian] • Lietuviškai

 **020 3315 6727**

Cheyne Child Development Service

Information for parents

Choose
Chelsea and
Westminster

Chelsea and Westminster Hospital 
NHS Foundation Trust

Multi-disciplinary assessment

Younger children who are referred to the service may be offered a Multi-Disciplinary Assessment (MDA) if there are significant concerns about one or more areas of development including large motor and fine motor movements, speech, language and behaviour.

The MDA involves appropriate professionals from the relevant team. The main aim of the MDA is to establish your child's developmental needs and to agree a plan to help ensure your child achieves his/her potential.

Children aged over 5 who are attending school may need detailed individual assessments and may already be involved with community school services such as speech and language therapy. In this case a review meeting may be arranged following individual professional assessments.

MDAs have 2 hours allotted for the appointment. In the first part the aim is to:

- find out about the family's concerns
- obtain necessary medical history, observe and assess the child's play and development
- complete a medical examination including weighing and measuring

This helps us to understand more clearly the nature of your child's needs and plan ways to help. We may need to arrange further assessments or tests which we will discuss with you.

In order to decide on these things we have a short break so the team can discuss together what we have seen and heard while you and your child also have a break.

We then meet with you to discuss our findings and to agree with you about the best ways to help. You will be given a brief handwritten summary to take away and a more detailed typed report will follow.

A review meeting, lasting up to 1 hour, may be arranged at this point for a future date and all the professionals working with your child will be invited to attend. This gives you a chance to review your child's progress with all those involved.

Who's who

Paediatrician

Paediatricians are doctors who have specialised in children's medicine.

Within each team there are doctors who have specialised further in the care, assessment and diagnosis of children with developmental problems and/or disability—this includes finding out whether there is a medical association, cause or consequence.

The doctor will want to spend some time carrying out play-based activities with your child to assess skills, including movement and usually follow with an ordinary medical examination.

Quite a lot of time will also be spent talking to you.

Speech and Language Therapist

The speech and language therapist looks at your child's communication including:

- understanding
- play and social development
- all aspects of communication including looking, pointing, gesture, as well as speech

The speech and language therapist will do this by asking how your child communicates with you and by observing play. They may ask your child to carry out some specific activities using familiar toys and pictures.

Following assessment, appropriate therapy input, if needed, will be discussed and planned with you.

Clinical Psychologist

A clinical psychologist is able to offer a psychological assessment and therapy to you and your child. This can involve:

- assessment of your child's development/learning abilities
- discussion and advice regarding your child's behaviour and emotional development
- discussion and advice regarding family relationships

The clinical psychologist will do this by talking with you and your child and, if appropriate, other family members about feelings and actions, by observing play and by asking your child to carry out specific tasks and exercises.

If following the assessment, therapy is needed, this will be discussed and planned with you.

Physiotherapist

Physiotherapy is a way of enabling your child to develop his or her physical independence, and of helping you and your child.

The paediatric physiotherapist has detailed knowledge and experience of normal and abnormal physical development in children.

If indicated, the physiotherapist will be present at the assessment and will want to look at your child to assess his or her physical skills and talk to you about your concerns.

The physiotherapist works in partnership with families and other professionals. It is vital for all children that their parents, carers and physiotherapist work together as a team.

Occupational Therapist

Occupational therapists assess and treat children who have delay or difficulties that affect their ability to independently achieve everyday occupational activities. Occupational therapists have expertise in:

- sensory development
- motor (movement) skills
- cognitive (learning) skills
- psychological and emotional areas
- social skills
- play development

The occupational therapist will assess your child by:

- discussing your concerns
- observing play and activity
- using standard assessments

(continued on back page)