



## **0-25 Occupational Therapy team:**

a guide for children, young people, their families, practitioners and professionals

**APRIL 2018**

## **0-25 Disabled Children's Team - Occupational Therapy Service**

### **Who are we?**

We are experienced Children's Occupational Therapists (OTs) employed by South Gloucestershire council and registered with the HCPC. We work with children with complex needs primarily from 0-18 years old at home, and in short break settings.

### **What do we do?**

We aim to support disabled children and their families to live safely and independently in their own homes. We enable access to essential facilities in the child or young person's living environment including access to the property and specific areas such as the bathroom, sleeping and living area. We also assess and carry out interventions to promote a safe environment in the family home, where a child is at risk in their environment due to challenging behaviour.

### **How do we do this?**

After an assessment of your child's needs, where necessary the OT will agree an action plan with you and your child. This may include:

- Advice and guidance; For example this could be around alternative methods of managing daily living tasks
- Provision of equipment such as a supportive seating system to enable hand function, or a mobile hoist and slings for safe manual handling
- Provision of minor adaptations: For example, grab handles in the bathroom to help get in/out of the bath safely and independently
- Provision of major adaptations via a Disabled Facilities Grant (DFG): An example would be building a level access shower room in the family home

### **Who do we liaise with to help you and your child?**

We liaise with social workers, health professionals such as doctors, physiotherapists, CCHP occupational therapists, speech and language therapists, education staff, housing related agencies, equipment providers and the voluntary sector.

### **Community Children's Health Partnership (CCHP) - Children's Occupational Therapist**

There is also a health team of Children's Occupational Therapists who work for CCHP. These therapists work with children to develop their functional skills; for example they may help a child to develop their ability to use their hands for self-feeding. The link below will take you to their website which has more detailed information about what they can offer <http://cchp.nhs.uk/cchp/explore-cchp/childrens-occupational-therapy>