

**Our Team is made up of a range of professionals who work together as part of a Multi - Disciplinary Team.**

All members of the team have a strong values-base, which enables them to respond to both individuals with learning disabilities, and their families and carers, in a creative, flexible and effective manner, to ensure that interventions are based on the most recent evidence and values-based practice.

We support cases by implementing individual plans of support, teaching and training tailored to the individual needs of the person.

The whole Team provides group work in areas such as relationship awareness, abuse, healthy lifestyles, postural care and the management of long term conditions. They also provide facilitation, teaching, training and support to individuals, carers, and care providers to recognise the need for and enable reasonable adjustments in care provision.

Everyone in the Team also has a commitment to lifelong learning and promotes empowerment for people with Learning Disabilities, and their families and carers in all aspects of their care. It is the key element underpinning their practice based on the principles of:

· Human Rights · Personalisation · Equality and inclusion · Person centred · Strengths-based · Respect · Partnerships · Health focused

**We are a committed specialist Community Learning Disability Health Team, working collaboratively in providing an innovative and person centred service, to effectively meet client's health needs.**

## REFERRALS

Referrals are accepted on a Single Assessment Process (SAP) Referral Form.

Anyone can refer in to the service.

All Referrals need to be sent to:

Stoke-on-Trent Community Learning Disabilities Team

41, Broom Street, Hanley, Stoke-on-Trent, ST1 2EW

**Tel: 0300 123 1152**

**Fax No: (01782) 227873**

**Please call the Team Secretaries on 0300 123 1152 to arrange email contact details if you wish to make a referral electronically.**

Our team also accept referrals for the Intensive Support Learning Disability Team (ISS) [8.00am—8.00pm—7 days per week].

Please do not hesitate to call if you require any advice, further information or if you require a Referral (SAP Contact Assessment) form.

The team works across two localities covering City and County (Newcastle and Moorlands) areas. Our Sister base is currently at Dragon Square Community Unit , Chesterton - contact details: 0300 123 1153



valuing people as **Individuals**  
working together for better lives  
**openness** and **honesty**  
providing high quality **innovative care**  
exceeding expectations

# North Staffordshire Combined Healthcare



NHS Trust



## COMMUNITY LEARNING DISABILITY HEALTH TEAMS FOR NORTH STAFFORDSHIRE AND STOKE ON TRENT

The Community Learning Disability Team is the specialist point of access for assessment, treatment and support for people aged 18 or over with a diagnosed Learning Disability.

We work with individuals who, due to complex physical or mental health needs, challenging behaviour or autism, are at risk of exclusion from mainstream services.

# About the Team

The Team provides:

Holistic assessment using a person centred approach and/or Care Programme approach Framework (CPA) Planning and evaluation.

We all support carers by implementing individual plans of support, teaching and training i.e. Programmes for positive behavioural support, along with Continuing Healthcare Assessments, Mental Capacity and Best Interest Assessments in relation to the Mental Health Act.

Assessment, treatment, support and desensitisation for people with complex needs and challenging behaviour. Also behavioural assessment, analysis and the development of plans.

The **Community Nurses and Support Workers** offer :

- Health facilitation to ensure fair and equal access and signposting to all mainstream health services, ensuring reasonable adjustments.
- Health promotion and education for individuals with complex healthcare needs and their carers.
- Assessment of the impact of issues associated with learning disability and complex healthcare. Supporting people who challenge services, have a dual diagnosis, additional mental health needs or are at risk of offending.

Also employed by the Team are **Nurse Prescribers** who have an extensive knowledge of Epilepsy, Audiology, Dementia, Autism and ASD conditions. They provide therapeutic interventions such as Cognitive Behavioural Therapy, counselling and behavioural skills work.

**Occupational Therapists and Technicians** offer:

- Activity of Daily Living Assessments to maximise independence in areas such as Personal care/hygiene, Domestic Skills, Cooking, Shopping and budgeting and Work/skills assessments.
- Sensory assessments to maximise engagement in purposeful activity.
- Assessment of specialist adaptations/ equipment.

**Physiotherapists and Technicians**

Physiotherapy aims to restore, develop, optimise and maintain physical skills.

Specialist assessment and interventions are directed at optimising physical positioning and movement to manage associated physical health issues such as high tone, spasms, pressure relief and respiratory function.

**Psychiatrists** provide specialist psychiatric input into areas such as epilepsy, dementia, challenging behaviour, pervasive developmental disorders and outpatient services. They work jointly with neurologists, mental health care and older people teams.

The **Psychological Therapists** provide psychotherapy for individuals, couples and families, drawing upon a range of therapeutic models for emotional and behavioural issues. They provide expertise in working with complex grief and loss, trauma and abuse. In

addition, for extremely complex behavioural issues they can further advise on Positive Behavioural Support strategies and interventions.

**Speech and Language Therapists**

These therapists are concerned with assessment and intervention in two areas:

- **Communication** — including pre-verbal development and sensory-based intervention to develop early communication skills.
- Recognising and responding to non-verbal communication and verbal comprehension. Also, expressive skills within a philosophy of 'total communication'.
- Alternative and augmentative communication including key word signing (e.g. Makaton) and high and low tech communication aids (including Voice Output Communication Aids).
- Social use of language (including group work) and supporting carers to provide capable communication environments.

**Dysphagia** (Chewing and swallowing difficulties):

- Facilitating referral for further assessments, i.e. Fibre-optic Endoscopic Examination or Video Fluoroscopy—recommendations around modified texture diets and thickened fluids.

**Dieticians** assess and provide advice to treat diet and nutrition related problems to enable individuals to make appropriate and healthy food choices.