

# Nottinghamshire County Council

## Schools and Families Specialist Services

### **Who are we?**

We are specialist teachers and teaching assistants with additional qualifications and experience in working with children and young people with a range of special educational needs aged from 0 -19.

The Service comprises four specialist teams:

- Early Years
- Autism (Communication and Interaction Team)
- Cognition and Learning
- Sensory

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

We work in homes, early years settings and schools offering advice, information and support to children and young people with complex special educational needs and to their families and the staff who work with them.

### **The Early Years Team**

The Early Years Team works with children with a range of complex special educational needs and disabilities from birth to the end of Key Stage 1 (approximately 7 years of age). The team comprises specialists for children with complex learning needs, communication and interaction needs/autism and for hearing impaired and visually impaired children.

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

- regular home teaching for children before they attend school
- support and advice to parents and carers
- transition planning
- advice and training to staff in schools and early years settings

We accept referrals from parents/carers, from schools and from other professionals. Most referrals for children attending maintained nurseries and schools are made at termly Family Springboard meetings.

### **The Autism Team (or Communication and Interaction Team)**

This team works with children and young people in Key Stages 2-5 (approximately 8 -19 years of age) with severe and complex communication and interaction needs/autism spectrum disorder. We work in mainstream and special schools and support children in situations particularly where the placement is at risk.

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

- training for school staff in autism
- support to develop and implement appropriate interventions
- support with developing appropriate curriculum to address children's needs
- support to measure and monitor progress and the impact of Interventions

Most requests for our support are made termly at Family Springboard meetings.

## **The Cognition and Learning Team**

The Cognition and Learning Team, work primarily in mainstream schools with children and young people in Key Stages 2-5 (approximately 8-19 years of age) with complex learning difficulties.

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

- advice and training for school staff in a range of learning needs, e.g. Down Syndrome, rare cognitive disorders, dyslexia
- support in developing and using appropriate interventions and resources, including ICT
- support with individualising the curriculum to address children's needs
- support with measuring and monitoring progress

Most requests for our support are made at termly Family Springboard meetings.

## **The Sensory Team**

This team consists of specialist teachers and teaching assistants of the deaf and visually impaired, a rehabilitation officer and a resource technician. The team works with children and young people in Key Stages 2-5 (approximately 8-19 years of age) with sensory impairments.

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

- specialist assessments and interventions
- advice and support to parents and carers
- information, advice and training to school staff in meeting the educational needs of the children and young people, and in using specialist resources and approaches
- support and training in independent living skills

We accept referrals from parents, health professionals and schools. Most requests for support from schools are made at termly Family Springboard meetings.

For more information please contact:

Schools and Families Specialist Services

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