

INTRODUCTION	1
SERVICE AIMS	1
SERVICE OPERATING PRINCIPLES.....	2
OVERVIEW OF SERVICES OFFERED	3
INTERVENTION AIMS, OUTCOMES, AND REFERRAL CRITERIA	3
REFERRAL, PRIORITISATION AND TRIAGE PROCESS	6
Referral	6
Prioritisation	6
Triage Process	6
REVIEW PROCESSES	6

Introduction

ICDS – Specialist Support Team (SST) provide a range of services aimed at supporting families in caring for their children / young people in their own home or their local community.

The purpose of the service is to support children and young people (aged 0-18) with complex additional needs and their parents/carers to lead the best lives they can by maximising independence and supporting whole family resilience.

Support can be provided to adults (post 18yrs) in exceptional circumstances where services have been provided prior to their 18th birthday. For instance; for the specific benefit of the young adult and/or where assessment evidences that time limited continued support would increase the success of transition into adult services

Service Aims

The team aims to:

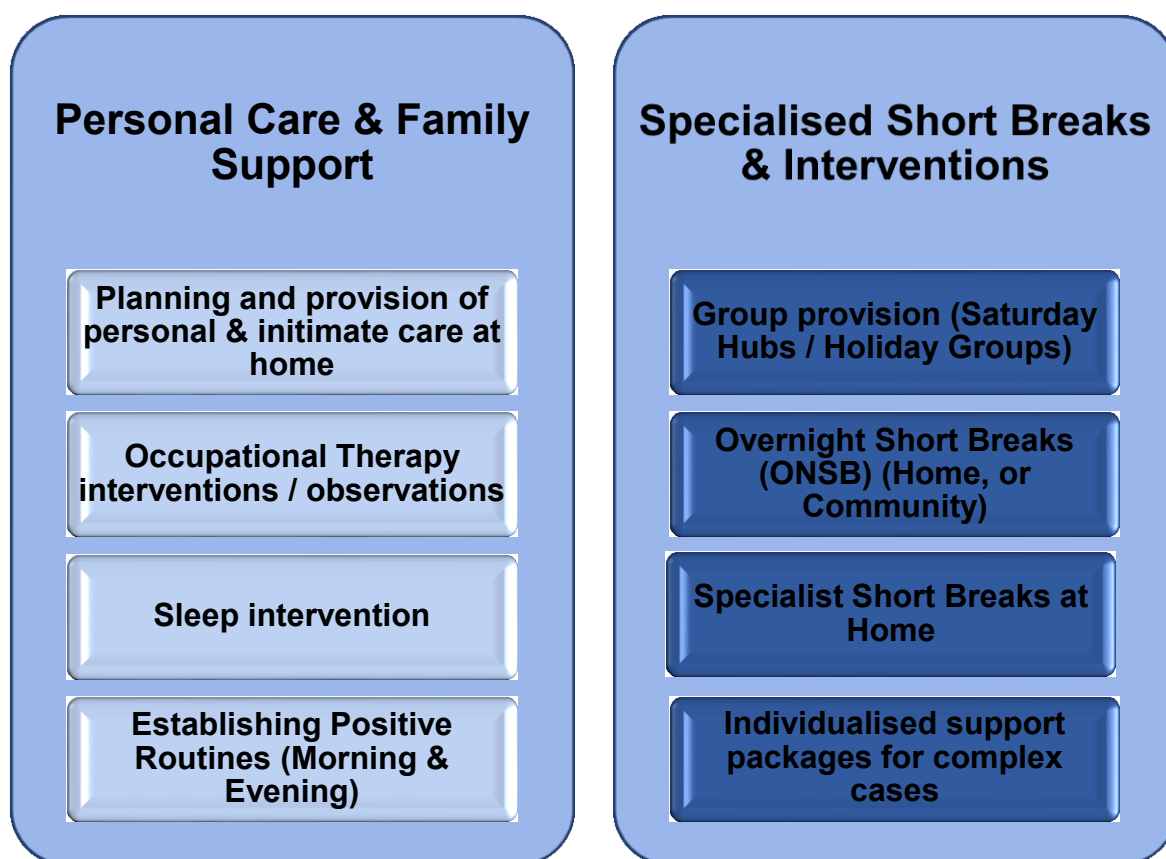
- Promote independence by giving children/ young people a voice and a choice in their own support and care packages
- Contribute to the protection of vulnerable children/ young people

- Reduce the need for children/ young people to become unnecessarily looked after by the local authority
- Enable children/ young people looked after by the local authority to return home, wherever possible and as early as possible
- Create greater opportunity for disabled children/ young people to access and benefit from community-based provision
- Encourage, empower and enable development of young people/ young people
- Enable families to be as self-sufficient as possible in meeting their own child / young person's needs.

Service Operating Principles

- **PARTNERSHIP:** using a strength-based approach we will work with all key stakeholders to secure the best possible provision and outcomes for children and young people, and their families.
- **CO-PRODUCTION:** our service offer, and individual support packages will be co-produced with children, young people and their families.
- **INTEGRITY:** we will operate in a transparent way and be accountable for our actions, including when things go wrong.
- **RESPECT and KINDNESS:** we will respect the dignity of our service users, including their families and demonstrate compassion and care in everything we do.
- **SAFEGUARDING:** keeping our vulnerable children and young people safe in their homes and communities lies at the heart of our service offer.

Overview of Services offered



Intervention aims, outcomes, and referral criteria

2a - Planning and provision of Personal & Intimate Care at Home	
Aims of Intervention:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> To identify the appropriate level of personal care and intimate support required to maintain family functioning with the minimum of intrusion / intervention. To provide support to disabled children and young people who require assistance with personal and intimate care needs, where there is insufficient capacity within the immediate family circle to meet these needs. <p>(Personal and intimate support is assisting with washing, bathing, dressing and undressing).</p>
Outcomes for child or young person:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> To enable a child or young person to be as independent as they can be. To maintain healthy hygiene. To increase feelings of self-esteem and self-worth. To enable families to be resilient and confident in meeting their child's or young person's needs.
Referral criteria	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Disabled children and young people up to the age of 18 who require support with meeting their personal and intimate care needs where there is insufficient capacity to support within their immediate family circle.

2b - Occupational Therapy interventions / observations	
Aim of Intervention:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Observations of the assisting and moving needs of children and young people or their personal and intimate care needs - to inform OT assessment. • Post adaptation support to children and young people / family to ensure safe handling, support routines and confidence is embedded.
Outcomes for child or young person:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Areas of need understood to inform support or provision • Independence is enabled, encouraged and increased. • Children and young people are supported in a safe and appropriate manner.
Referral criteria	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • ICDS Occupational Therapy Team through the Children's Commissioning Team.

2c - Sleep Intervention	
Aims of Intervention:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Assessment of sleep difficulties. • Advice around sleep hygiene. • Advice around positive bedtime routines. • Devise tailored and individual programmes and plans to meet individual children and young people's needs. • To improve sleep and associated behaviours.
Outcomes for child / young person:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The child or young person and family experience an improved night's sleep. • The child or young person experiences individual improvements associated with improved sleep, for example, improved concentration and positive mental health.
Referral criteria	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The child or young person is disabled. • The child or young person is aged between 5 and 18. • The child or young person's sleep difficulties are behavioural rather than medical.

2d - Establishing Positive Routines	
Aim of Intervention:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • To support with the establishment of positive routines where a child or young person, or their family, need advice, practical and/or emotional support.
Outcomes for young person:	<p>Improved routines for child or young person which can lead to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Improved behaviours. • Improved family functioning. • Increased school attendance.
Referral criteria	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The child or young person is disabled. • The child or young person is aged between 5 and 18. • The family are struggling with understanding and responding to their child's or young person's behaviour.

3a - Group provision (Saturday Hubs / Holiday Groups)	
Aim of Intervention:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> To provide a community setting for social groups and activities for children and young people with complex needs, who are unable to access other targeted or universal provision on Saturdays and during school/ college holidays.
Outcomes for child /young person:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> To ensure children and young people are <i>Teen Ready</i> or <i>Transition Ready</i>. To ensure children and young people have fun and develop friendships / support networks.
Referral criteria	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Disabled child or young person. Age 8 and over Child or young person is unable to access other targeted or universal provision. Referrals via Children's Commissioning team after RAS has been completed and an allocation in excess of 200hrs given.

3b - Bespoke Overnight Short Breaks (ONSB)	
Aim of Intervention:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Overnight short breaks in the community, other appropriate venue or in the young person's own home
Outcomes for child / young person:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Increased independence Realisation of hopes, dreams and aspirations Link to transitions Overnight short break for family.
Referral criteria	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Children's Disability Service request as an outcome of Children and Families assessment Request must be considered and agreed at Over Night Short Breaks Panel before request can be made to the Specialist Support Team.

3c - Specialist Short Breaks at Home	
Aim of Intervention:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Short Breaks are provided in the child's or young person's home. The child or young person is supported at home enabling the parents to have a Short Break.
Outcomes for child / young person:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The child or young person feels relaxed and confident in their own home. The child or young person has a fun time. The family have a Short Break.
Referral criteria	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Children's Disability Service request as an outcome of Children and Families assessment Allocation of Short Breaks of above 200 hours.

3d - Individual support packages for complex cases	
Aim of Intervention:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> To provide a bridge at a time of crisis between the individual support package and a longer term, more sustainable plan which could include other short break's provision i.e. SST's group provision.
Outcomes for child / young person:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Home situation is stabilised. Child / young person can move onto other community-based provision as part of a transitions plan agreed with the child / young person and their family.

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Child's / young person's confidence, independence and resilience is increased.
Referral criteria	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Children's Disability Service request as an outcome of Children and Families assessment • Short-term intervention required.

Referral, Prioritisation and Triage Process

Referral

Referral is made via Mosaic through the Childrens Commissioning Team, however Personal & Intimate care at home are agreed by the Personal and Intimate Care Panel.

Prioritisation

This is requested from the referrer at the point of initial referral, but the level is reconsidered after the Mosaic request is made, in line with the evidence supplied and the with the agreement of SST management Team.

Priority 1.	Safeguarding needs – children who are referred for support with concerns linked to Safeguarding
Priority 2.	Referrals for children / young people who currently have no support in place and where a delay in provision will have a detrimental effect on their development and health
Priority 3.	Referrals for children/ young people who currently have some support in place, but the support is not working, and the family is at risk of breakdown
Priority 4.	Referrals for children/ young people who currently have some support in place, but the support is not working but there is no immediate risk of breakdown

Triage Process

For some interventions (sleep / routines), information is requested from the parent / carer in the form of logs, to inform SST of the most appropriate level of intervention to undertake with the child / young person and their family.

Review Processes.

Assessment /tracking / review tools	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Child or young person feedback • Parent or carer feedback • End of intervention review
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The service undertakes regular reviews of the support it offers to ensure that it meets needs, tracks outcomes and that the child / young person remains at the centre of any plan in place. The service operates a "Nothing about me, without me" approach to ensure that the voice of the child/young person is heard.

SST will combine its reviews with other statutory reviews including the child / young person and their family, to reduce the amount of formal processes a family is exposed too, to ensure communication is consistent across all professionals involved and to keep the support child focused.