

## How to access the service?

You can get a referral by phoning Somerset Direct on **0300 123 2224** and selecting options 'children's team' and 'other'.

For more information visit our website [www.somerset.gov.uk](http://www.somerset.gov.uk)

## What to expect after referral?

Referrals are triaged to ensure those most in need receive support first.

If the situation changes whilst awaiting an appointment, please contact Somerset Direct to update us.

A member of the team will make contact with you to arrange a visit at home, school or nursery.

At this initial meeting we will carry out a full needs assessment, and together we will agree an action plan.



# Occupational Therapy Service



*'Enabling children with disabilities and their families to live as independently and safely as possible.'*

**Children with Disabilities Team**

**Children's Social Care**

**[WWW.SOMERSET.GOV.UK](http://WWW.SOMERSET.GOV.UK)**



Produced by

The Children with Disabilities Team  
Occupational Therapy Service

All referrals should go through Somerset Direct's Children's Team:  
Phone: 0300 123 2224  
Visit: [www.somerset.gov.uk](http://www.somerset.gov.uk)

## Who are we?

The Occupational Therapy team consists of Occupational Therapists (OT's) and Occupational Therapy Assistants (OTA's).

We have bases countywide.

## What is occupational therapy?

OT's believe that engaging in meaningful activity is essential for our health and wellbeing.

We aim to help your children do the everyday things they want and need to do, as safely and independently as possible.

This could include, bathing, toileting, sitting comfortably or playing.

We help families access the opportunities, skills and support required to reduce the barriers children may face as they grow up.

## What do we do?

We offer support for children and young people with a disability; and their families living in Somerset.

Our role includes:

- ◆ Following an assessment of need, could well lead to the provision of specialist equipment, such as postural seating.
- ◆ Provision of minor adaptations, for example, stair rails or temporary ramps.
- ◆ Supporting cases for rehousing or 3rd party grants.
- ◆ Assessment for the provision of major adaptations, such as a wet room conversion, through the Disabled Facilities Grant.
- ◆ Advice on risk management and maintaining a safe environment, including completing household safety checks or providing training in manual handling techniques.
- ◆ Liaison with, referral and signposting to other services, for example, wheelchair services, physiotherapy or short breaks team.

