The Newcomen neurodevelopmental service

This leaflet gives more information about your child's appointment with the Newcomen neurodevelopmental service at St Thomas' Hospital. If you have any questions please contact our clinic coordinator (contact details at the end of this leaflet)

The Newcomen neurodevelopmental service

We are a regional and national service for the assessment, diagnosis and management of children and young people with neurodevelopmental differences. These are conditions such as:

- autism
- attention deficit hyperactivity disorder (ADHD)
- language disorder
- co-ordination difficulties
- epilepsy
- genetic conditions

Patients might also have mental health conditions, distress behaviours, or difficulties accessing learning.

Who can refer patients to us?

We accept referrals from NHS colleagues, including paediatricians (children's doctors), GPs, neurologists, psychiatrists or any other medical consultant.

Where to find us

We are based at the Newcomen Centre at St Thomas' Hospital. We are on the 1st floor of staircase B, in South Wing (marked in purple on the hospital maps).

How long is the appointment?

Your child's appointment will take 3 to 4 hours.

Preparing for the appointment

- Think about how to prepare your child for the appointment. On the website you will find photos of our department, which you might find help to prepare your child before their appointment.
- Contact us if you would like any extra assistance (such as an interpreter) on the day.
- Fill in any questionnaires we send you. Make sure you pass on a questionnaire to your child's school (if we ask you to), for them to complete and send to us or give to you, before your child's appointment.
- Bring all previous reports (for example, from psychology or speech and language therapy).
- Bring drinks or snacks for your child.

During the appointment

Our waiting room is designed for children with neurodevelopmental differences.

This is a multidisciplinary assessment, which means we work as a team, and several specialists will be present at your appointment.

There will be a consultant or psychiatrist, a psychologist and a speech and language therapist. There might also be an occupational therapist. We are a teaching hospital and might have someone observing us as part of their training. We will ask your consent for this. If you don't want to have them at the appointment, please tell us. It will not affect your child's treatment.

1. At first, we will see you all together.
2. Where possible your child will then go into a room next door with some members of the team to complete some assessments. This might include table top or physical activities and conversation. These assessments are directed by your child's individual needs.
3. We will give you a break while we have a team discussion.
4. We will then all come together again, to give some feedback. You can decide if you would like your child to be present for this. If needed, a staff member will stay with them.
5. We sometimes arrange a home or school visit to discuss our findings or to make observations in a different setting.

After the appointment

A detailed written report of our findings will be sent to you within 4 weeks. If you have any questions about the report please contact us.

Contact us

If you have any questions about the neurodevelopment service, please contact our clinic coordinator, **phone** 020 7188 4624, or visit **web** www.evelinalondon.nhs.uk/our-services/hospital/
complex-neurodevelopmental-disability/overview.aspx

For more information on conditions, procedures, treatments and services offered at our hospitals, please visit **web** www.evelinalondon.nhs.uk/leaflets

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Evelina London Medicines Helpline

If you have any questions or concerns about your child's medicines, please speak to the staff caring for them or contact our helpline, **phone** 020 7188 3003, Monday to Friday, 10am to 5pm **email** letstalkmedicines@gstt.nhs.uk

Our values: Put patients first | Take pride in what we do | Respect others | Strive to be the best | Act with integrity