

**Q. Why has my child been referred?**

A. There are concerns around some of your child's development.

**Q. What is an assessment?**

A. This will begin with a Home Visit from the nursery nurses and may include your portage or key worker (if you have one assigned). Your child's individual needs will be discussed and further information provided.

The assessment will then review your child's needs in order to develop a future plan to maximise your child's potential.

**Q. What happens at the assessment?**

A. Your child will attend several sessions at the Children's Development Centre (CDC). Your child will have an assigned nursery nurse wherever possible. During these sessions they will be seen and observed by the Multi Disciplinary Team which may include nursery nurses, physiotherapist, occupational therapist, speech and language therapist, clinical psychologist and the medical team.

**Q. Where does the assessment take place?**

A. The CDC is within the John Parkes Unit which is based at the Annexe on the Newton Road (separate from the main hospital site).

The children's nursery has indoor and outdoor play facilities including a sensory room.

Up to 6 children at a time can be accommodated per session. Children may then be taken to separate therapy rooms for more detailed individual assessments if required.



**Q. How long and often are the sessions?**

A. The sessions are weekly and can last up to two and a half hours. This will usually be over a 6 week period. This will be discussed with you at the home visit.

**Q. Can I stay with my child?**

A. Yes you are welcome to accompany your child but due to the nature of the assessment we recommend only one parent/carer attends the session with your child.

**Q. Can I leave my child?**

A. Yes many parents choose to leave their child as the child can act differently without the parent present.

**Q. How do I get feedback from these sessions?**

A. You can speak to your nursery nurse or the therapist that has seen your child. This can be arranged at the end of the session.

## Q. What happens at the end of the assessment process?

A. All members of the team will be asked to submit a report. When this is completed there will be a Joint Assessment Clinic when all the team involved in your child's assessment will be invited to attend a meeting along with yourselves, GP, Health Visitor, Portage or Key worker, Advisory Teacher, nursery staff or pre-school staff if required. If they are unable to attend they will be asked for a report which will be discussed.

Following the whole process a developmental plan will be produced and agreed with you. This may include an ongoing nursery place in the CDC, individual outpatient's appointments with appropriate therapists, onward referral to appropriate services or follow up with the Consultant Paediatrician.



### Further Information

If you would like to find out any further information then please contact the nursery nurses at the CDC on

(01803) 655549

between 9.00am and 4.30pm

Monday to Friday

**The John Parkes Unit  
The Annexe  
Torbay Hospital  
Newton Road, Torquay**

South Devon Healthcare **NHS**  
NHS Foundation Trust

## Referral to the Child Development Centre (CDC) for an assessment

