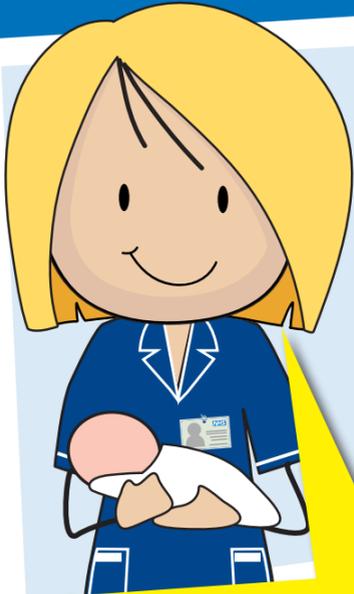


# Meet your NHS Professionals

Here are some of the great teams of professionals who may help to support your child

## Midwife



A midwife will do much more than care for you and your baby during birth. Your midwife will give you care and advice during your pregnancy, labour and after your baby is born. They can also give your partner advice and support too.

### Antenatal and Newborn Screening Co-ordinator

Midwives who oversee and co-ordinate six antenatal and newborn screening pathways, provide information to families regarding choices and options and support them with the choices they make.

## Speech & Language Therapist



A Speech and Language Therapist (SALT) can help with sucking, swallowing and feeding and also help support speech, language and communication skills.

## Audiologist



An Audiologist will help your child manage issues affecting their hearing and perform regular hearing tests.

## Health Visitor



Your Health visitor will support with delivery of The Healthy Child Programme, which begins with an antenatal contact which focuses on a universal preventative service, providing families with a programme of screening, immunisation, health and development reviews, supplemented by advice around health, wellbeing and parenting. Your families care will be handed over from your midwife after delivery. Health visitors will support parents and their children in a variety of ways including physical health, early attachment and development, mental health and wellbeing, and practical aspects of parenting. Supporting the emotional and social, as well as the physical health and wellbeing of the whole family during the perinatal period.



## Occupational Therapist

Occupational Therapists work with children and their families to enable individuals to reach their full potential by promoting independence in activities of daily living. They can support with motor skill development, sensory development, activities of daily living and also concentration and attention. Assessment, intervention, support and education can be offered to support the individual needs of the child.

## Paediatrician



Your paediatrician has knowledge about the services available to support your child to reach their full potential. They can make referrals to these services if they are needed, they will also perform regular health checks.

## Ear, Nose and Throat Doctor



Your ENT Specialist plays an important role in looking after any ear, nose and throat problems.

## Dietician



Your Dietician can help your child with difficulties such as sucking reflex, weaning advice, allergies, intolerances and supporting with food choices to maintain a healthy weight and balanced diet.

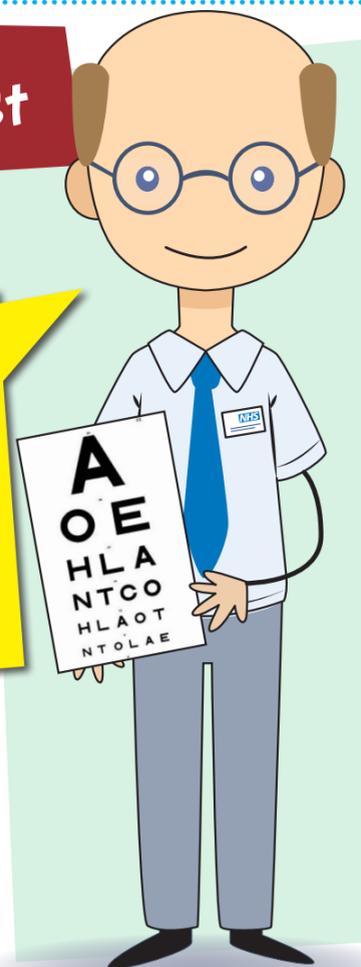
## Physiotherapist

Physiotherapists play a vital role in supporting developmental milestones. Early intervention can help identify potential need and development of both gross and fine motor skills. Possible issues with muscle strength, balance, posture and levels of activity can be addressed to promote your child's function and overall independence. Support can also help with cognitive development, whilst recognising any potential sensory difficulties. They work with children and their families to ensure that they maximise their potential in all areas of life. Offering education and advice to support your child in a variety of settings.



## Ophthalmologist

Your Ophthalmologist ensures that your child does not have any eye conditions that could potentially interfere with his/her learning opportunities, personal development and/or overall wellbeing.



## Advice and Support

Health Services work to meet the needs of your children. If you have a concern about your child then please raise it with a professional such as your midwife, health visitor, GP or Paediatrician if they are involved.

As a reminder, your "new parent pack" can provide the details of local and national Down Syndrome Charities who can provide support for you and your family.