Lancashire’s Health Services

1. Name of the service and what the service provides

**Lancashire Care NHS Foundation Trust - Blackburn with Darwen, Hyndburn and Ribble Valley Clinical Child Psychology for Children with Moderate, Severe and Profound Learning Disability.**

The service offers assessment leading to a formulation and intervention plan for a range of presenting problems with a psychological basis e.g. Anxiety, OCD, Eating problems, Sleep, Challenging behaviour, trauma. The service is part of the multi-disciplinary diagnostic pathway for Autism Spectrum Disorder offering Autism Diagnostic Observation Schedule (ADOS) assessments to children with a learning disability.

Other activities that are provided under the service include:

- Parent groups e.g ASD parent groups – Cygnet.
- Behaviour management groups: Riding the Rapids and Incredible Years (Additional Needs).
- Parent Child interventions: Parent Child Game.

The service is mainly advisory in nature e.g. offers advice to parents and carers to help them understand and change their child’s behaviour. When appropriate individual work is undertaken with a child. Neuro Psychological assessment is undertaken when required.

There are close working relationships with the Paediatric Learning Disability Nursing Service for East Lancashire and many of these interventions are delivered jointly.

There is no time limit in terms of number of sessions. However, we would need parents to be ready to undertake interventions as recommended. If it is not the right time for the family to do this due to external factors then the referral will be closed and the family can seek re-referral at another point.
2. **Address and contact details and area covered**

The service is carried out in Blackburn with Darwen, Hyndburn and Ribble Valley areas. The base is:

- The Mount, Whalley Road Accrington, BB5 1AR - Telephone 01254 226480

There is no out of hours service provided. If there was an emergency the family would be directed to contact Social care Duty Team or A&E or G.P as appropriate.

3. **The service is for**

The service is provided for children and families with moderate and severe learning disabilities. Learning disability is defined as:-

- A significantly reduced ability to understand new or complex information, to learn new skills (impaired intelligence), with;
- A reduced ability to cope independently, (impaired social functioning);
- Which started before adulthood, with a lasting effect on development

Children (0-16 years) with learning disabilities are usually seen by this service.

Adults (16 years and over) with learning disabilities are usually seen by adult learning disability clinical psychology service. However, there may be occasions where it is appropriate for the child clinical psychology service to remain involved up to 19 years, but this will be decided on an individual case basis.

There are close working relationships with the Paediatric Learning Disability Nursing Service for East Lancashire and many of these interventions are delivered jointly.

4. **Accessing the Service**

Referrals can be made by:

- G.Ps
- Medical Consultants e.g. Paediatricians, Neurologist, neonatology.
- Paediatric learning disability nursing service
- Learning disability special schools
- Social Work Team for Children with Learning Disability / Complex and Additional Needs
- Child Development Centre
- Educational Psychology
- SENCO in mainstream school.

The service is free of charge. All referrals are responded to within 18 weeks, but there might be a waiting time longer than 18 weeks to receive appropriate individual or group treatment.
### 5. Decision making processes used to determine who is eligible to receive a service.

If the level of learning disability is not clear from the referral the service will try to establish this by contacting the referrer and / or the family and school once the permission of the family is obtained. If this cannot be established the service will offer an assessment appointment to help them decide which is the best service to offer the family.

If the presenting problem is something that can be managed by another service with consultation the service will suggest this e.g. Child Development Centre, Paediatric Learning Disability Service, health visiting, school nurses.

### 6. Methods of communication with service users/patients and how they are involved in decision making/planning.

Psychological work is by its very nature a collaborative process so the service will be discussing the options for managing the symptoms with the family and child on an ongoing basis.

Other forms of communication are:

- Letters - written after assessments with a clear action.
- Phone calls or Text and email.

The service will also use specialist communication methods where necessary such as; signing or bilingual interpreters. Parents are carers may be present at sessions and will be informed of how their child is doing.

We follow the CORC (Child Outcome Research Consortium) nationally recommended outcome measure, by using the Sheffield questionnaire as a routine outcome measure to measure clinical change.

### 7. Service Accessibility.

The Mount is wheelchair accessible. There is no baby change or adult change facility at The Mount, however, appointments can be offered in a variety of locations e.g. Child development centres, family homes, special and mainstream schools. The Mount has a separate waiting area for children.
8. **Workforce Skills and Training**

This is a specialist Learning Disability Clinical psychology Service is delivered by a one consultant Psychologist and one senior clinical psychologist. All staff are required to complete mandatory training and will have specialist training when identified.

---

9. **Contacts for further information**

Ailsa Smith - Consultant clinical Child Psychologist

The Mount, Whalley Road Accrington, BB5 1AR (BB5 5DE for Satellite Navigation)

01254 226480 or Ailsa.smith@lancashirecare.nhs.uk

Other services will have a role in providing support such as; CAMHS, health visitors and other professionals. The service is not commissioned out of hours.

---

10. **Feedback**

If the family have a concern or compliment about the service the first point of contact should be Ailsa Smith (details above). If a resolution cannot be reached the point of contact would be Isobel lamb - Consultant Clinical Psychologist.

If there is no clear resolution the family can use LCFT complaints service. The Trust process can be found on the website: [http://www.lancashirecare.nhs.uk/contact-us/Complaints.php](http://www.lancashirecare.nhs.uk/contact-us/Complaints.php)