

## REFERRAL CRITERIA FOR SPECIAL NEEDS HEALTH VISITING SERVICE (SNHV)

The Special Needs Health Visitors provide a service for PRESCHOOL children. The child MUST be preschool at point of referral.

Referrals will be considered from Health Professionals, Early Years Special Educational Needs/Disabilities Team (EY-SEND) & Social Care.

Referrals can be made to the service as soon as concerns arise regarding a child's special needs. For example the Family Health visitor may refer prior to a referral to the Community Paediatrician or at the point of referral to CDC.

### CRITERIA FOR REFERRAL

1) Pre-school children who are under assessment for possible Autism Spectrum Disorder (ASD) including children who are suitable for possible Shorter Diagnostic Assessment.

*Please note we **WILL NOT** accept referrals from Community Paediatricians where we are asked to determine whether a child's name needs to be added to the Communication Disorder Assessment Clinic (CDAC) waiting list.*

Our role will be to provide support & information for these families during the assessment process. As well as providing information and/or observation to the shorter diagnostic pathway.

2) A child with a complex condition whose needs are unable to be met by the universal health visiting pathway.

Please note, for the purpose of referral the child must also have accompanying global developmental delay.

## INTAKE PROCESS

New referrals will be discussed the SNHV's to determine if referrals meet criteria.

The SNHV may liaise with the Family Health Visitor to determine what support/information has already been provided and whether SNHV involvement is required.

A letter acknowledging the referral will be sent to the family and referrer within 2 weeks, confirming either acceptance onto the SNIIV caseload or if referral criteria has not been met.

An appointment will be offered within 10 weeks of referral

Following an initial home visit, if an Early Support Team around the Family is required, the SNHV may coordinate the initial meeting depending on who is the most appropriate person in the team to do this.

Following a home visit, liaison will be sent to the referrer and with parents consent copied to other professionals involved if relevant.