**PAEDIATRIC OCCUPATIONAL THERAPY DEPARTMENT**

Occupational Therapy enables children to participate in daily life to improve their health and wellbeing. Daily life is made up of many activities (or occupations). Occupations for children or young people may include self-care (getting dressed, eating a meal, using the toilet), being productive (going to nursery or school) and leisure (playing with friends, doing hobbies).

Occupational Therapists work in partnership with school staff, parents and carers to evaluate a child’s strengths and challenges to help them to engage in meaningful occupations. An Occupational Therapist may suggest alternative ways of doing things, providing advice on learning new approaches and techniques, or making changes to the environment, for example, through using equipment.

**Input offered could be:**

* At a **Universal Level** e.g.signposting, advice, strategies and training for education staff, parents and carers.
* At a **Targeted Level** e.g. specific advice and strategies for an individual, setting goals jointly with education staff and parents/carers for your child’s Individual Education Programme (IEP).
* At a **Specialist Level** e.g. specialist equipment.

We maintain contact with parents/carers in a variety of ways, e.g. through the child planning meetings, telephone calls and the school home diary.

You can contact us through the school or on 01506 524134.