### Name of service/organisation:

# William Merritt Disabled Living Centre and Mobility Service

**Description:** We provide support services for disabled children and those with life limiting illness, from birth to 19 years old.

The Paediatric Occupational Therapists offer independent and impartial information and advice, assessments and support for children, parents and professionals. Assessment of your equipment needs are carried out by our professional Paediatric Occupational Therapists (OT).

The William Merritt Centre does not sell anything and local retailers tend not to sell children's products. However, our Paediatric OT's can arrange assessments with companies who specialise in children's equipment and details of how to purchase products will then be given to you.

You may need to apply for charitable funding for equipment, if statutory funding is not available. The Therapists will be happy to write a report to support an application for your child.

## Kit 4 Kidz Children's Services Individual Assessments

Following a discussion with yourself and/or the referring professional, an appointment will be made for your child at the Centre. A small range of children's equipment is on permanent display including bathing and toileting, car seats, supportive seating and buggies. We arrange to have additional equipment brought to the Centre for assessments so we can demonstrate the different sizes available. We have an excellent relationship with a wide range of children's equipment companies so we can ensure that we are able to meet the needs of you and your child and give you an informed choice.

#### **Passenger Access**

The assessment will consider how your child can get in and out of the vehicle more easily. The Paediatric OT's will help you to identify an appropriate type of vehicle/wheelchair accessible vehicle and/or transfer equipment. Many families apply for vehicles using the Motability Scheme and our Therapists will be able to advise you, and write a report for you to support this process.

#### **Car Seat Clinics**

Car seat clinics are held offsite, 4 to 6 times per year.

**EQUIPMENT, ADAPTATIONS AND RESOURCES** 

**PCAN Pages** 

Really useful information for parents of children with additional needs in Kirklees www.pcankirklees.org Call 07754 102336 Email info@pcankirklees.org

During the clinic your child's postural needs, and the manual handling issues will be assessed by our Paediatric OT's. The stability of the chosen car seat, in your vehicle, will then be checked by our Car Safety Consultant.

#### **Tricycle Clinics**

Tricycle clinics are arranged on a regular basis, as the need arises. We hold these offsite in a safe, spacious venue where the children are able to trial the adapted tricycles.

#### **Walkers Clinics**

The walkers clinics are arranged following a request from your child's physiotherapist, and they will attend with you. Your child will be able to trail a variety of walkers brought in by the children's equipment companies, for the clinic.

To arrange an appointment or to discuss your child's equipment needs, please contact Annette Abbott or Paula Spencer on 0113 35 89 89

#### **Switches 4 Kidz**

The Centre has developed an assessment service and lending library for adapted toys and switches for children from the Leeds area. Toys such as tape recorders, bubble machines, fans, musical and remote controlled toys can be adapted with a variety of switches and interfaces, to enable many children with limited movement to operate them. The toys encourage movement, give a learning experience, and teach children about cause and effect, thereby stimulating the child's development.

For further details please contact Paula Spencer on 0113 350 8989.

#### Switches 4 Kidz and Technology 4 Teens Open Sessions

These sessions are open to children, young people, parents, carers and siblings as well as professionals to look at the switches, toys and technology we have available. Our Occupational Therapist can visit nurseries, schools, playgroups or you can visit us here at the centre. For further to details please contact Paula Spencer on 0113 350 8989.

#### **Accessible Gaming**

These sessions are open to children, young people, parents, carers and siblings as well as professionals to have a look at access to games consoles such as the Playstation and Nintendo Wii using switch adaptors, to play independently or in teams. An initial individual appointment may be needed to identify what equipment you may need. For further to details please contact Paula Spencer on 0113 350 8989.

**Phone number:** 0113 3508989

**E-mail:** info@wmdlc.org

Website: <u>www.wmdlc.org</u>

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Address:	St Mary's Hospital, Green Hill Road, Armley, Leeds, LS12 3QE

Really useful information for parents of children with additional needs in Kirklees PCWDsite www.pcankirklees.org Call 07754 102336 Email info@pcankirklees.org