



Sensory Integration Therapy Service

**Disability, Support and
Inclusion (DSI) Service**

**Believe in
children
Barnardo's**



The Sensory Integration Clinic

We have **2 specialist sensory integration clinics**; which are used to assess and challenge the different **sensory systems and movement skills**. Assessment and intervention are **play based**, and the therapy and assessments use a **child-centred** approach.

What is Sensory Integration?

Sensory integration is how our brain receives and processes sensory information so that we can do the things we need to do in our everyday life.

The brain receives information from different parts of the body, makes sense of it, and then actions the appropriate response.

Sensory processing issues can impact on:

How we move:

big and small movements such as running, jumping, riding a bike, and using our hands for grips.

Personal care skills:

washing, dressing, using cutlery, putting shoes on, using the toilet.

Ability to play:

knowing how to play with others, having ideas about what to play etc.

School skills:

writing, using scissors, sitting still, PE, listening.

The messages between the body and brain don't always work as they should; not enough or too much information is sent, which impacts on the individual's responses.

Concentration and attention: being able to sit still and focus.

The types of activities that the person seeks out: e.g. spinning, walking on tip toes, chewing non-food items.

Responses to different sensory experiences: sensitive to sounds, light touch, hair or nail cutting etc.

Who can Sensory Integration therapy help?

As Occupational Therapists (OTs), we assist and enable individuals who have difficulties in doing every day tasks.

As Sensory Integration therapists, we think about what the underlying reasons are for these difficulties, and if they relate to how the body processes sensory input.

If a person is finding lots of things difficult, then a sensory integration assessment may be useful, to help identify the cause of the issues.

Who can refer?

Anyone who has concerns about a child or young person can refer [in collaboration with the parents/carers].

We receive referrals from parents, carers, schools, social workers or other professionals such as Psychologists.

Who can provide Sensory Integration?

Sensory Integration is a specialist approach that OTs, Physiotherapists and Speech and Language Therapists can use after they have completed training by the Sensory Integration Network.

Assessment and therapy follow core criteria. It is very different to the types of activities that children and young people do in a sensory room or in sensory play sessions.

Our process

Referral: letting us know what your concerns are about the young person.

Assessment: identifying strengths and needs, looking at functional skills, sensory processing and movement based skills using standardised and non-standardised assessment tools.

Goal setting: planning what is most important to improve upon in the young person's life.

Therapeutic input: direct therapy in clinic/school/home, sensory programme, functional programme.

Training: skilling up school/nursery staff and families about the young person's sensory and functional needs and profile.

Contact Us

We can answer any of your questions if you would like to get in touch.

Barnardo's DSI Service,
Village Farm Business Centre,
East Street,
Holme on the Wolds,
HU17 7GA

Tel: 01430 810139

Email: dsi@barnardos.org.uk
barnardos.org.uk

Our specialist sensory integration suites are located at Holme on the Wolds near Beverley, and in Grimsby.

With generous support from the Katherine Martin Charitable Trust.