Frequently asked questions

What therapeutic treatment approaches do you use?
All aspects of communication and using a 24 hour
postural management approach underpin our
multi-professional way of working. We use
the principles from a range of treatment approaches
which can include, Sensory Integration, Bobath and
Conductive Education. We do not prescribe to a
single treatment modality but use treatment methods
as suited to each individual with regular reviews.

Who do I contact?

We’re always happy to answer any queries that you may have.

You can contact our Head of Clinical Support to
Pupils & Young Adults Jane Windsor, on:

Phone: 01825 722112 ext 7743

Address: Chailey Heritage Clinical Services,
Beggar’s Wood Road,
North Chailey,
Nr Lewes,
East Sussex BN8 4JN

Email: jane.windsor@nhs.net

Or visit our website:
www.sussexcommunity.nhs.uk/chailey

If my child has a consultant at Chailey what
happens with the consultant who is already
involved locally?
If the clinical package includes a medical
consultant then they would liaise with the
paediatrician in the community or the paediatrician
who has provided acute care. The consultants at
Chailey work closely with all clinical staff involved
with your child or young person.

If my child needs 24 hour nursing care
are you able to provide it?
Yes, we are able to provide this as part of an
agreed funded package of care.

Are you open during school holidays?
We are open throughout the year however there is
reduced staffing during the holidays.

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How often can a therapist see my child?
Every student or young adult will have their
own named therapist who is responsible for
co-ordinating their therapy programme. The
therapists all work closely with the class teacher,
the multi-professional team, the family and all
those involved in the student’s or young adults care,
to set targets and develop the most appropriate
programme for each individual. The therapy
programme may take many forms including direct
individual sessions, small group sessions and/or
a class/home based programme. The amount of
therapy each individual receives will vary throughout
their school/residential life according to their
changing needs.
Clinical support

The focus of Chailey Heritage Clinical Services is for the child and young person to be secure, comfortable and pain free and to promote independence in order to enable them to take an active role in their wider community. Working with the family, child or young person is central to our practice and this is achieved by sharing knowledge, experiences and values.

What we offer our clients

We currently provide clinical support to:
- the pupils of Chailey Heritage School;
- to the young adults in the Chailey Heritage School 19+ service;
- young adults who are residents of Bevern View in Barcombe, East Sussex and outreach packages to children in mainstream schools.

We also have a separate rehabilitation service for children and young adults with acquired brain injury (www.sussexcommunity.nhs.uk/chailey). We are able to provide an individual customised package of support which can include the multi-disciplinary team as a whole or in part:

The Physiotherapy Service

Has expertise in:
- hippotherapy (therapeutic horse riding)
- postural management
- hydrotherapy
- bobath techniques
- massage
- orthotics
- botulinum toxin (botox) management
- orthopaedic (e.g. spinal management)
- assistive technology (trikes)
- strengthening using adapted treadmill and static bike

We offer flexible services for children and young people with complex neurodisability (including acquired brain injury) to:
- children in their schools (special schools and mainstream)
- young people in their residential environment
- and in homes supporting families if appropriate

We have a highly specialised and comprehensive clinical team of therapists, rehabilitation engineers and medical and nursing support. Research underpins our problem solving approach and we are leaders in fields such as, posture management, powered mobility learning, nutrition, sleep & consulting with children, young people and their families.

What we offer our clients

The Occupational Therapy Service

Have specific expertise in:
- postural management and seating
- electronic assistive technology (accessing computers, environmental controls & powered wheelchairs)
- powered mobility learning programmes
- upper limb management (promotion of fine motor skills, need for splints and management of the upper limbs post botulinum toxin (botox))
- use of equipment for all areas of activities of daily living including manual handling and assessment of slings

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- young people in their residential environment
- and in homes supporting families if appropriate

Speech and Language Therapy Service

Have specialist knowledge in:
- the assessment and treatment of language function
- alternative and augmentative communication (AAC) systems and voice output communication aids (VOCAs)
- management of oral skills affecting speech, eating, drinking and saliva control

The Speech and Language Therapists are also members of the Nutrition service offering advice and support for children and young people with eating, drinking and swallowing difficulties.

Rehabilitation Engineering Service

Our team of qualified engineers and technicians support the work of the therapists and doctors of Chailey by providing engineering input with a clinical focus. They work with your child/young adult’s team to ensure they stay safe and comfortable in the equipment they use.

They specialise in:
- the manufacture/adaptation of postural management equipment e.g. lying supports, seating systems, standing supports and adaptations to tricycles
- we also have engineers who specialise in electronic assistive technology

Medical Service

We have a consultant led team with paediatricians specialising in neurodisability who have expertise in the management of all aspects of complex physical disability.

They specialise in:
- the management of epilepsy, spasticity and movement therapy
- orthopaedic complications (including spinal and hip management)
- pain management
- nutrition and growth
- respiratory complications, including ventilator care
- neuromuscular conditions and also mental health and well being for children with complex disability

In addition the team work closely with a visiting team of tertiary medical specialists. For the pupils of Chailey Heritage School there is a medical consultant out of hours provision.

Nursing Service

Have specialist nurses in:
- management of complex health needs
- management of continence needs
- management of enteral and nutritional needs
- pain management and symptoms
- tissue viability, seizure management
- respiratory care and management of medication

In addition we offer access to over 40 specialist out-patient clinics on the Chailey Heritage Clinical Services site. Please contact us for more details.