



Assistive Technology Clinic

Introduction

Our Assistive Technology clinic provides expert advice on adaptation or modification of equipment used by children and young adults with complex disability e.g. bathing, toileting equipment, static seating, trikes or walkers .

Our aim is to make sure that each piece of equipment is used to its maximum potential and in turn, enables you to gain a greater degree of independence.

If several pieces of equipment need to be reviewed, then you may wish to attend one of our Activities of Daily Living Clinics instead.

About the clinic

Who can attend this clinic?

As long as you are under 20 and use assistive technology, then you can attend our clinic. For adults referrals are accepted but special funding is required.

Why choose to come to an Assistive Technology clinic?

- Enables you to achieve mobility as we can adapt trikes and walkers for your personal use
- Maximises the potential of personal care and seating equipment as we can manufacture/adapt and personalise it to meet your needs
- Helps to maximise your usage of the equipment when it meets your specific needs

Who can refer me to the clinic?

You can be referred by your therapist or GP.

How often is the clinic?

Following acceptance of the referral clinics are arranged to fit in with any activities or clinical commitments you may already have.

About the appointment

How long is the appointment?

The time taken for the assessment will depend on your needs and the amount of adaptation required. On average you can expect the appointment to last for approximately 2 hours.

Who will I meet?

You'll meet the following:

- Rehabilitation Engineer/Clinical Engineer
- A member of your local team i.e. therapist who will need to attend the assessment with you
- And sometimes a therapist from Chailey

Your appointment contact (email, telephone call or letter) will give more information.





Assistive Technology Clinic

What will I need to bring to the clinic?

It's important that you bring the piece of equipment that is not currently meeting your needs and anything else that you think may help demonstrate the problems you are having.

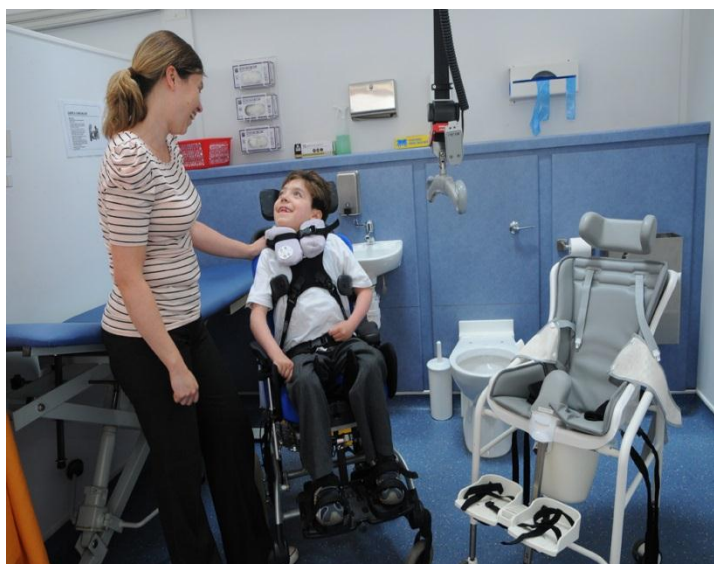
What will happen in the clinic?

Members of our engineering team work with you and your local therapist to provide personalised equipment when there is no commercially available alternative. Equipment may be made especially for you or the solution may be achieved by modifying your existing equipment.

We start with looking at the equipment you currently use or intend to use. During this time you will have an opportunity to talk about what you are hoping for and to discuss any concerns you or your team may have regarding the equipment. Please feel free to ask questions throughout.

With your agreement the team may take photos of you using your current equipment as a record. These photos are kept in the clinical notes and used for reference only.

Your local therapist will discuss what you hope to achieve with the equipment and the engineer will suggest possible solutions. These may be that a different piece of equipment could be more suitable or the current piece of equipment is modified. At the end of the assessment the options available and the decision regarding any changes to the equipment will be recorded.



What happens after the clinic?

Following the assessment the engineer will wherever possible give you a time scale in which you can expect to receive your equipment. Time will be scheduled to undertake the work agreed and contact will be made to arrange a second appointment if appropriate. At the second appointment you will be able to trial the equipment before it is finished or take it home. You will be given information on care of the equipment and will be able to call us at any time if you have any queries.

What happens if I require a new appointment?

If a review or a new appointment is required then a new referral will have to be made.

We're here to help

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

If you have any queries at all, please contact the clinic secretary on:

 **Phone:**
01825 722112

 **Fax:**
01825 724719

 **Email:** sc-tr.enquirieschcs@nhs.net

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