## Referral process for ASD (Autistic Spectrum Disorder) and / or ADHD.

Below is an outline of the process we need to follow in order to refer a pupil for assessment for either ASD, or ADHD or both.

## 1. Raising and discussing your concerns.

Parents / carers can raise concerns with class teachers, giving examples of behaviour and how often / where / when observed.

Concerns can also be raised with parents, by class teachers: these will usually be discussed with you during parents evening appointments.



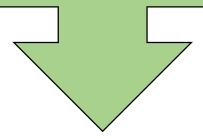
## 2. What we do if symptoms and behaviours are observed at home and in school.

Concerns and behaviours have to be seen in **both** the home and school setting for us to proceed to the next stage (pervasive). If your child's class teacher shares your concerns and has also observed behaviours in school, then they will speak to ALNCO (Mrs Bartlett) and child will be added to the waiting list for observation.

School will write an IEP with targets and strategies to support your child and this will be reviewed after two terms. If no progress has been made, then we can make a referral to either the Educational Psychologist or Behaviour Support teacher, who will come and observe your child in school. Parents are asked to complete a section of the referral form, giving examples of your concerns and the behaviours that you have seen at home.

## We are not able to continue with a referral if behaviours are only seen at home.

We are however able to support through a referral to the Early Help Hub or Faith In Families.



After school observation, by either our Behaviour Support teacher or Educational Psychologist or, if we have enough observed evidence and examples of behaviours, we will complete screening questionnaires (home and school). If the home and school questionnaires are in agreement and are 'above threshold', then we can proceed with a referral to the ND Team.

Mrs Bartlett (ALNCO) will complete the referral form with class teacher and parents & send to the ND team.

The current waiting time for assessment, is **26 months from date of referral being accepted** (not the date of the referral being submitted). It can take up to 3 months for the ND team to read and accept or decline a referral.



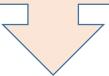
Capacity for referrals: we have an average of and 5 visits from our Behaviour Support teacher & 4 visits from our Educational Psychologist per term. Our allocation is decided by the Local Authority, not by us as a school.

Not all of these visits are allocated to ND Pathways concerns, about half are used to attend meetings for pupils with Statements and IDPs. It may take two or three observation visits before we are able to gather enough evidence for a referral evidence, and so we are usually only able to submit only one or two ND referrals per term.

Moving into the 2023/2024 academic year, there are already 9 pupils potentially awaiting observation from our Behaviour Support teacher and 5 pupils awaiting assessment from our Educational Psychologist.

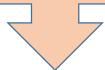
If concerns are not shared, both school and parents will continue to monitor and record examples of behaviours. It is really helpful if parents keep a notebook with a dated log of behaviours you see, as soon as your concerns start. This will be very important evidence for any referral which may be made at a later date.

We will log that a concern has been raised and this will be passed on to next teacher, to continue monitoring.



Family support with behaviours which only occur at home, can be offered through a referral to Early Help Hub or Faith In Families. Our Family Liaison Officer will support with this – Sharon Couch.

Please phone school and ask to make an appointment to speak to her, after speaking to your child's class teacher, if your concerns are not seen in school.

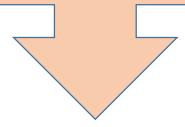


Parents are able to self-refer to Occupational Therapy for support and advice into sensory difficulties (food preferences and eating / hair brushing / teeth brushing / sensitivity to noise / sensitivity to textures and clothing. The referral form is on the SBUHB (Swansea Bay University Health Board) website – search for Occupational Therapy.

A number of Occupational Therapy support programmes are available on the SBUHB website – search for **SBUHB paediatric occupational therapy programmes** 

Sensory issues, by themselves, do not provide enough evidence for as ASD referral – there needs to be other behaviours and difficulties which also occur.

Occupational Therapy support programmes / referral / assessment needs to be tried first.



Parents are able to discuss a self-referral with the ND Team based at NPT hospital in Baglan - 01639 862459.

If a GP or any other professional (Early Help Hub worker, CAHMS worker etc) says that they see indicators of ASD or ADHD, they must be willing to write a professional report, for us to be able to consider making a referral. As a parent, you will need to ask them to provide this.

