

Sensory Offer Pathway – for the use of referrers and families

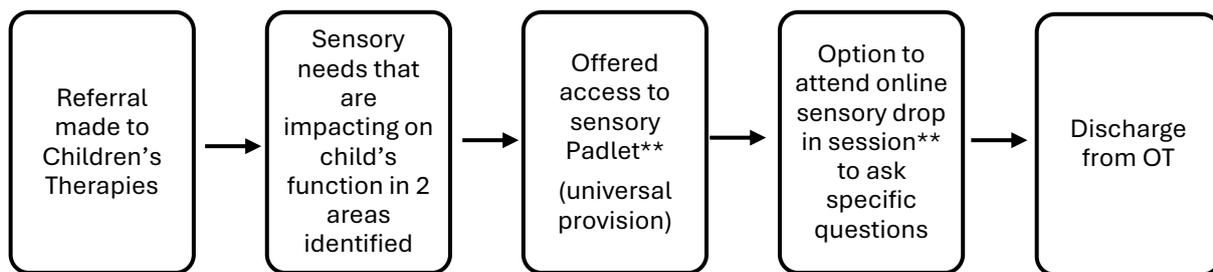
Universal Sensory Offer:

Access to
Sensory Padlet
via RUH website



- Access to our online sensory resources and information packs ([Sensory Information](#)).
- Access to our ‘Making sense of my senses’ document template (downloadable from the Padlet) to help support planning between school and home.
- Access to reasonable adjustments for child/young person`s sensory needs as part of the ordinary provision.

Targeted Offer – Referral made to the Children’s Therapy Team for support:



1. Referral received by Children’s Therapies Team

Child/ Young Person is referred with:

- Functional needs in 2 areas or more that are due to sensory differences. Sensory Pathway information provided only. *

or

- Sensory needs that are impacting on child/young person`s functional skills in 2 areas or more **and** additional functional needs that sit outside of their sensory differences (or it is unclear). The Sensory Pathway will be offered, but the family will receive information within their letter to let them know an appointment with the OT team will be sent to assess the additional identified functional needs (in line with service waiting times of 18 weeks, depending on clinical need).

**If child/young person has an Autism diagnosis we may direct you to more targeted resources from the Specialist Autism Support Service ([Specialist Autism Support Service \(SASS\) | Live Well in Bath & North East Somerset](#))*

Actions following weekly triage of referrals:

2. Family and referrer will be sent a letter from the Children’s Therapy Team explaining our pathway and support available. The letter is usually sent within 2-4 weeks from the triage date.

This letter explains:

- Open access to the Sensory Padlet resources: an online website with longer and shorter bite sized videos and information sheets offering explanations of what sensory processing is; different sensory sensitivities; targeted strategies to try and a downloadable ‘Making sense of my senses’ record form. **
 - Optional access to a one hour online sensory information drop-in session run once a month by two Occupational Therapists. This is a Question-and-Answer style session led by the specific queries parent/carers ask at that session. **
3. Following the letter sent to parent/carers (see section 2.), if no contact is made from the family to request access to a drop-in session, the team will assume that the online resources have met need, and the child/young person will be discharged two months after the initial letter was sent.
 4. If request for the drop-in session is made, an online video link will be shared with the family. Following the drop-in session the child/young person will be discharged from OT, unless they are still open to OT for other issues.
 5. If the parent/carer feels, or as part of the drop-in session, there are additional functional needs that sit outside of the child/young person’s sensory differences then a new referral will need to be made by an appropriate professional/SENCO.

Specialised Offer – receipt of a request for an advice report from the Local Authority for Education Health Care Plan:

6. If a child/young person has been on the sensory pathway within the last year, a letter confirming that the parent/carers accessed this support (and attended a drop-in session) can be provided.

<p>Author: Maddie Lock, Children`s Occupational Therapist, Jan 2026</p>	<p>Reviewed by Emily Graham, Head of Children`s Therapies, Jan 2026 V3</p> <p style="text-align: right;">Page 2 of 2</p>
-----------------------------------------------------------------------------	------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------

7. Families and schools are encouraged to include information and strategies they have used to support the child/young person in their 'Making sense of my senses' document into the EHCP.

8. Occupational Therapist`s do not see children/young people specifically to assess sensory needs as part of the EHCP process but, if required the OT would look at how the child participated in the classroom and, as part of that assessment, would observe how sensory differences impact the child`s functional abilities.

**** If parent/carers will have difficulty accessing or following the online information / group, please contact the team and we will provide an alternative way for them to access the information, suitable to the parent/carer`s needs.**