

New Profiling Tool to help identify children and young people with neuro-developmental needs

Children and young people who are showing signs of neuro-developmental needs can now access a new tool which can help identify what support a child or young person may need.

The Neurodiversity (ND) Profiling Tool assesses nine developmental strands of a child or young person aged 0-19. This includes speech and language, energy levels, attention skills, emotion regulation, sensory levels, flexibility and adaptability, and empathy.

This will offer an insight into a child or young person's needs and suggest types of strategies that can be put in place to help manage those needs in different areas of a life, such as at home, at their Early Years setting, school or college, and in the community.

The tool has been piloted with 50 families in Portsmouth from March 2021 to April 2022 and has now been approved for use across the city.

From 1 July 2022, the ND Profiling Tool will replace the current referral process to request a ND clinical assessment. Instead, trained professionals will be required to complete the ND Profiling Tool in the first instance. This will mean no long waits for a full ND assessment (currently at 18+ months) and your child or young person will be provided with strategies to help them manage their needs with the support of family and education settings.

The process of completing the profile is done with the family, and not for or to the family. If you work with families and would like to complete the training in order to support families in completing the ND Profiling Tool, please send your full name and job title to sharedmailbox.sendstrategy@portsmouthcc.gov.uk and you will receive the training details.

The ND Profiling Tool has been co-produced by Portsmouth City Council in partnership with Portsmouth Parent Voice, Dynamite and partners across education, health, social care, and early years. It is delivered through Health and Care Portsmouth.

Find out more about the ND Profiling Tool: <https://www.portsmouth.gov.uk/services/schools-learning-and-childcare/schools/special-educational-needs-and-disabilities/>