

Ref. No: 2245
Date: 22/12/25
Subject: Children's Continence Service

REQUEST & RESPONSE

Under the provisions of the Freedom of Information Act (FOIA), we would be most grateful if you could provide answers to the following questions regarding your Trust's children's continence and/or bladder and bowel services. we kindly request responses to the following questions:

1. Does your Trust currently provide a children's continence and/or bladder and bowel service for individuals aged 0–19 years? **Yes**

If yes, please provide:

- The name of the service (if applicable).
St Helens & Halton Paediatric Continence Team
- The age range it covers.
Aged 0-18 years (however young people with learning disabilities may continue to be supported and treated by the service until age 25 years if the young person, parent/carer and practitioner agree that this is the most appropriate service)
- The staff roles or disciplines included in the service (e.g. nurse, physiotherapist, occupational therapist).
As outlined below
- The number of staff in each role, expressed as whole-time equivalent (WTE).
 - **B7 Clinical Lead 1WTE**
 - **B6 Specialist Nurse 2WTE**
 - **B5 Registered Nurse 1.6WTE**
 - **B4 Nursery Nurse 2.6WTE**
 - **B3 Admin & clerical 1.2WTE**
- The service's referral pathway (e.g. GP, school nurse, self-referral).
 - **Health professionals**
 - **Education services**
 - **Children's Social Care Services**

2. Has your Trust closed, reduced, or restructured any part of its children's continence and/or bladder and bowel service within the past three years (since October 2022)? **No (answered in relation to St Helens & Knowsley Teaching Hospital)**

If yes, please provide:

- The date of closure or reduction.
- A brief description of what changed (e.g. staffing, eligibility criteria, service capacity).

3. How many children and young people aged 0–19 are currently being supported by your adult continence service for pad provision? Please provide the number of individuals currently recorded in this category.

None

4. What is the average waiting time (in weeks) for an initial assessment on the children's continence service? Please provide the current number of children and young people (aged 0–19) on the waiting list for this service.

- **Average wait is approximately 12 weeks for an initial assessment**
- **Currently 153 patients awaiting first appointment – we provide an opt in service therefore all un-booked patients are due to parents/caregivers not opting in yet.**
- **Current case load is 1341**

5. Does your Trust follow the relevant **NICE guidelines** for continence care and management? Please indicate Yes or No for each

- [Children's Continence Commissioning Guide: A handbook for the commissioning and running of children's community continence services](#) **yes**
- [Guidance for the provision of continence containment products to children and young people - A consensus document](#) **yes**