

How do I access the service?

If you are an existing wheelchair user and known to SWaPS, contact the team on the information below. If you are new to the service, you need to be referred through an accredited referrer who could be, for example, an occupational therapist, paediatric physiotherapist, community nurse or via GP service involved in your care.

For more information, call:
01743 444051

Shropshire Wheelchair and Posture Service
Shropshire Rehabilitation Centre
Lancaster Road
Harlescott
Shrewsbury
SY1 3NJ
Email: SWaPS@shropcom.nhs.uk

Children's Wheelchair Provision

Patient Information:

This leaflet provides advice and support to patients about **Children's Wheelchair Provision** from **Shropshire Wheelchair and Posture Service (SWaPS)**



Datix Ref: 1991 Review Date: February 2019
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Is my child eligible?

Mobility products are considered for paediatrics who:

- Have permanent disabilities affecting mobility
- Have compromised walking ability due to developmental delay
- Unable to be accommodated in standard retail pushchairs
- Are unable to sit unsupported independently

Children Wheelchair Assessment Process

Following the referral, the child may be invited to clinic to allow a full assessment to be completed. You will be assessed by a Rehabilitation Engineer and a Wheelchair Therapist, however a paediatric physiotherapist or other involved professionals may be present if you wish.

What does the assessment involve?

- Introduction to SWaPS
- Discussion regarding equipment requirements and intended use in all aspects of life, including carer needs
- Full postural assessment if applicable
- Equipment demonstration
- Equipment handover if in stock
- Invitation to a further assessment for handover

Types of Equipment Available:

Depending on the outcome of the assessment and clinical requirements, the equipment prescribed may involve:

Right: e.g. standard buggy
Below: e.g. postural buggy

Buggies—Standard:

- Basic buggy
- Suitable for clients with symmetrical posture
- Can be folded for transport



Buggies—Supportive:

- Increased postural support for asymmetrical postures and increased dependence
- Can be folded for transport or transported with the user seated



Manual Wheelchair:

- Users who have outgrown buggies or wish to have independent mobility
- Self propelling options for independence, attendant options also available
- Can allow increased postural support to be incorporated in the wheelchair seating



E.g. self propelling wheelchair (above left) and attendant propelled wheels (above right)

Powered Wheelchairs:

- Independent mobility for clients who are unable to self propel

E.g. powered wheelchair (Right)



NB: SWaPS does not provide powered wheelchairs for school use only. This is to be funded through the Local Education Authority.

Special seating

- This is bespoke seating which is considered for users who are unable to be posturally supported through standard equipment

Referral → Initial appointment → Equipment Prescribed → Handover