

For further information about this service contact:

Luton

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Bedfordshire

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Kempston,
Bedfordshire MK42 7EB
Tel: 0300 555 0606
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Union Street Clinic

Union Street
Bedford MK40 2SF
Tel: 0300 555 0606
Email: ccs.paediatricadminteam-unionstreet@nhs.net



If you require this information in a different format such as in large print or on audio tape, or in a different language please contact the service on the details above.

If you have any compliments about this service or suggestions for improvements, contact our Patient Advice and Liaison Service on 0300 131 1000 (charges may apply depending on your network) or email: ccs-tr.pals@nhs.net.

For free, confidential health advice and information 24 hours a day, 365 days a year please contact NHS 111.

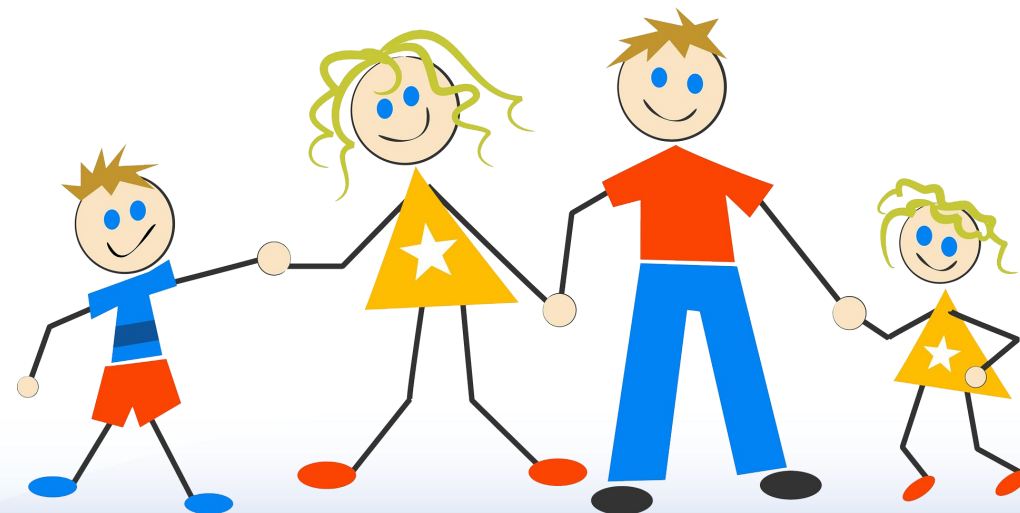
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Global Development Delay (GDD)

Redgrave Children and Young People's Centre



Cambridgeshire Community Services NHS Trust: delivering excellence
in children and adults' community health services across Luton

What is GDD?

Global Developmental delay is a name ('diagnosis') given by doctors when a child has not reached two or more of their **developmental milestones** at an expected age.

What causes GDD?

There are many different causes of GDD including **genetic disorders, metabolic disorders** etc. Many children do not have an identifiable cause for their difficulties but this should not make any difference to how your child will be supported. It is important to remember that GDD can affect children from all backgrounds and you should not feel to blame for your child's difficulties.

How can I help my child at home?

There are a large number of things that you can do at home and you are probably already doing lots of them! There are some separate leaflets about the different difficulties children may have and how to support these. Please ask us at the Edwin Lobo Centre (ELC) for these if you have not already been given them.

Will my child catch up?

The term 'delay' is misleading as it is uncommon for children to simply 'catch up'. Most children with GDD continue to have difficulties as they get older. Children are often diagnosed with learning difficulties/disabilities when they start school. Please make sure you speak to the SENCO at your child's school if you have concerns about your child's support/progress.

What will happen as my child gets older?

It is not really possible to predict how your child will progress over time, but it is important to ensure that they are receiving the right support within and outside school so that they can make progress along their own individual path. Try to treat any progress your child makes as a success of your and their hard work.

My child loves technology – Is this OK?

Lots of children love technology. However try to ensure some screen free time for you and your child (the more the better) where you can play with your child without background distractions. Interacting and playing with children at their developmental level increases brain connections and teaches them lots of different things.

What else should I know?

Having a child with GDD can be hard work and it is really important for you to look after yourself as well as your child. You may find speaking to other parents of children with similar difficulties may be helpful. There are two local parent carer forums who can help you with this and also signpost you

What is a **developmental milestone**?
A milestone is an ability reached by a child (usually by a certain age) – an example of this is 'first smile' 'first step' 'first word'.

Whatever you
are doing, try
to have fun
with your child
and
enjoy what they
CAN do.

A **genetic disorder** occurs when there is a problem in a person's DNA.

A **metabolic disorder** occurs when the body's usual way of making and using energy does not work properly.

Where can I get help?

LOCALLY

Your **Health Visitor (HV)** will be able to support you with any questions you may have and also provide ideas to support your child's development.

Luton and Central Beds HV team - Tel: 0333 405 0087/0333 405 0090

Parent Carer forums - great resources to help parents and carers. They even helped design this leaflet!

Luton Parent Carer forum (LPCF) lutonforum.org.uk
Tel: 07534 625066/07985 470156

Central Bedfordshire Parent Carer forum (SNAP)
Tel: 07984 545044

Special Educational Needs and Disability (SEND) parent, children and young person partnership services (maybe referred to by some as Parent Partnership or SENDIASS) offering a range of free and confidential education support services for parents/Carers of children with SEND.

Luton:

www.luton.gov.uk/Education_and_learning/Special_educational_needs/Pages/Luton-SENDIAS-service.aspx

Central Beds:

www.centralbedfordshire.gov.uk/children/sen-disability/send-partnership/overview.aspx

Local Offer

Luton:

www.centralbedfordshire.gov.uk/children/sen-disability/landing.aspx

Central Beds:

www.centralbedfordshire.gov.uk/children/sen-disability/landing.aspx

NATIONALLY

Children's Sleep Charity - supporting children with sleep issues
www.thechildrenssleepcharity.org.uk Tel: 01302 751 416

Contact (previously Contact a Family) – for families with disabled children
www.contact.org.uk Tel: 0808 808 3555

Mencap - A charity working with people with Learning Disabilities
www.mencap.org.uk Tel: 0808 808 1111

SOS SEN - A national charity supporting children and young people with special educational needs and disabilities. www.sossen.org.uk
Tel: 0300 302 3731

CEREBRA - Working wonders for children with brain disorders.
www.cerebra.org.uk Tel: 0800 328 1159

