

The Neurodiversity (ND) Profiling Tool - Portsmouth

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

The neurodiversity (ND) profiling tool is the first step in identifying neurodiversity within children and young people aged 0 to 19. It was first piloted with 50 families in Portsmouth from March 2021 to April 2022 and has now been approved for use across the city.

The ND profiling tool is a visual document that assesses nine developmental strands of a child or young person aged 0 to 19. This includes speech and language, energy levels, attention skills, emotion regulation, sensory levels, flexibility and adaptability, and empathy.

It provides a holistic view of a child or young person's needs and suggests 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 process of completing the profile is done jointly with a trained professional and the family, and not for or to the family. It can help children and young people to get the right support, without waiting for a diagnosis.

The ND profiling tool offers an insight into a child or young person's needs and will help identify the types of strategies that can be put in place to help. It can also be used to request support from a multidisciplinary neurodiversity team.

The ND profiling tool has replaced the referral process to request a ND clinical assessment, aiming to reduce long waits for a full ND assessment.

This process is supported by the neurodiversity platform which contains resources, guidance, and information that can be used alongside the neurodiversity profiling tool. To access the platform, visit the [Family Assist website](#) and click the 'Neurodiversity' tab on the menu.