



# Movement Support

Information for schools and other agencies

Children & Young People's Services



# What is the Movement Difficulties Support Service?

The Movement Difficulties Support Service is part of Durham County Council Education Support Services, managed within the Specialist Educational Psychology Service.

The team was established in order to support schools and Early Years Settings to improve and develop the movement, coordination and perceptual skills of children and young people.

## Core aims of the team

- To raise achievement and maximise opportunities for children to participate in all aspects of school life.
- To promote the development of movement coordination and perceptual skills in children and young people between 2-19 years of age in schools and early years settings.
- To increase the capacity of schools & early years settings to recognise the importance of movement and coordination skills on children's general development and progress.
- To increase the capacity of schools and early years settings to deliver appropriate intervention programmes.

## Accessing the service

Pre-school settings which would like to be involved in Early Years Initiative can contact the service directly (details overleaf).

School aged children who would benefit from our service are usually identified by school staff although concerns can also be discussed with the school Educational Psychologist.

There is a small amount of service available to all County Durham schools. Enhanced and individualised packages can be arranged for schools and groups of schools, or groups of schools from a range of options, charged to the school/cluster. For further information please contact the service.

## Some of the benefits of developing movement and coordination skills

Research highlights that an increasing number of children would benefit from regular, systematic support to improve their balance, coordination, stamina and general movement skills.

Research also highlights such programmes have significant and long lasting benefits not just for physical skills but also in terms of the development of children and young peoples:

- Concentration
- Learning and achievement
- Handwriting
- Listening
- Self confidence
- Social skills
- Self help and independence such as dressing
- Personal organisation
- Health and fitness.

## What the service provides

Individual assessment movement skills. Supported programmes of intervention for Individuals and groups of pupils across the age range. A variety of programmes are available including:

- A dedicated **Early Years Programme**.
- **'Move2'**: a programme for 2-3 year olds.
- **'Move It'** programme for individuals and small groups.
- **'Move It'** Circuits for groups and whole class work.
- **'Keep Moving'** circuits for older pupils.

Opportunities for staff training and development regarding identification and delivery of support strategies.

## **Contact**

**Movement Support Service**

**Education Psychology Service**

Children & Young People's Services

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