



Turtle River School Division - Administrative Procedure

Section D – Student Services

Occupational Therapy and Physiotherapy Services

Occupational Therapy (OT)

The Division is able to support students with the services of an Occupational Therapist in order to help them reach their full potential. This service is a collaborative model and includes the assessment and recommendations of student skills and abilities by an occupational therapist. Services are contracted through the Regional Health Authority (RHA) and the Parkland Children’s Therapy Initiative (PCTI). Once referred for services, the Central Referral Intake will forward the referral to the occupational therapist who will coordinate the assessment and priority of need.

What is Occupational Therapy?

Occupational therapy refers to two aspects: everything that people do to occupy their everyday lives, and the therapy aspect of assessment and treatments allowing one to recover, develop, and maintain the daily living and work skills essential to health and well-being. Occupational therapy (OT) includes student and family supports that focus on a student’s growth and development in attaining important skills related to the following areas:

- Motor skills—fine, large, oral motor skills
- Sensory processing
- Cognitive skills—perceptual, attention, learning
- Psychosocial skills
- Self-care skills
- Play/adaptive skills
- Environmental access, modification
- Specialized equipment needs

Who Provides Therapy Services?

Trained occupational therapists work together with families and team members to provide services within available resources. Therapy services may be delivered in a variety of settings dependent on the needs of the child and family. The occupational therapist completes all assessments and then trains a school staff member to provide therapy to support the child.

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How Does Occupational Therapy Look?

Occupational therapy may involve exercises at home or school and periodic assessments and consultations by the clinician to review the student's progress and development. The therapy provided at the school can be from that of the clinician, from another school trained employee, or even in the classroom from the student's teacher, dependent on what therapy is needed to support the student's overall growth.

Using the child/family centered team approach, therapy services may include:

- Screening / assessment
- Direct intervention
- Consultation with parents and child care providers for home/child care/school programs
- Education for parents and care providers
- Specialized equipment and environmental adaptations.

Examples of Occupational Therapy Areas of Support May Include:

- Adaptive Play skills
- Self-care skills
- At risk for choking
- Delayed development of milestones
- Feeding concerns
- Environmental access needs
- Texture aversions
- Fine motor skills (e.g. How to grip a pencil)
- Peer interactions
- Saliva control
- Attention and Organization (e.g. How to study for a test)
- Sensory Processing
- Other

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Physiotherapy (PT)

The Division is able to support students with the services of a Physiotherapist in order to help them reach their full potential. This service is a collaborative model and includes assessment and recommendations of student skills and abilities by a physiotherapist. Services are contracted through the Regional Health Authority (RHA) and the Parkland Children's Therapy Initiative (PCTI). Once referred for services, the Central Referral Intake will forward the referral to the physiotherapist who will coordinate the assessment and priority of need.

What is Physiotherapy?

Physiotherapy (PT) is a healthcare profession which supports people in restoring, maintaining, and maximizing their strength, function, movement, and overall well-being. Physiotherapy includes student and family supports that focus on a student's growth and development in attaining important skills related to the following areas:

- Motor skills—large, fine
- Sensory processing
- Muscle tone, flexibility and strength
- Balance and coordination
- Mobility
- Play skills
- Specialized equipment needs.

Who Provides Therapy Services?

Physiotherapists work together with families and team members to provide services within available resources. Therapy services may be delivered in a variety of settings dependent on the needs of the child and family. The physiotherapist completes all assessments and then trains a school staff member to provide therapy to support the child.

How Does Physiotherapy Look?

Physiotherapy may look different for each student. This may involve exercises at home or school, and include periodic assessments and consultations by the clinician to review the student's progress and development. The therapy provided at the school can be from that of the clinician, from another school trained employee, or even in the classroom from the student's teacher dependent on what therapy is needed to support the student's overall growth.

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Using the child/family centered team approach, therapy services may include:

- Screening / assessment
- Direct intervention
- Consultation with parents and child care providers for home/child care/school programs
- Education for parents and care providers
- Specialized equipment and environmental adaptations.

Examples of Physiotherapy Areas of Support May Include:

- Adaptive play and self-care skills
- Delayed development of milestones
 - o Has awkward physical coordination
 - o Trips and falls easily
- Feeding concerns
- Environmental access needs
 - o Avoids playground equipment
- Texture aversions
- Gross motor skills (e.g. Has trouble with ball handling skills)
- Peer interactions
 - o Avoids participation in gym
- Other

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Referral Procedures for Occupational Therapy and Physiotherapy Services

1. If a parent or teacher has a concern regarding any of their child/student's growth and development related to one or more of the occupational therapy or physiotherapy areas, then a referral may be initiated by either party.
2. A referral form may be completed by an agency, parent/guardian, and/or school teacher/principal. However, the referral must have permission granted to refer from the parent or legal guardian and be submitted by the school division.
3. A referral form may be obtained by clicking the link below or by requesting one from either Parkland Children's Therapy Initiative (PCTI) or the resource teacher.
4. The school resource teacher works as a liaison at the school for clinicians' services being accessed and will work with the family and clinician in coordinating and providing therapy and services at the school. The resource teacher will provide parents with a copy of the PCTI brochure regarding OT and PT services.
5. Completed referrals are to be sent into the School/Division office. PCTI will not accept referrals directly; the forms must be submitted through the school division.
6. Referrals are to be copied and placed in the student's file by the school resource teacher.
7. Referrals are then mailed in to Central Intake at the address below where they will be directed to the correct provider agency. The agency will contact the family to begin the service planning. **Referrals must be signed by the parent/legal guardian granting permission.**
8. The PCTI receptionist will then contact the school resource teacher and let them know who will be seen and when. She also calls the parents and invites them to the school.
9. Parkland Children's Therapy Initiative Referral for Service Address

**Parkland Children's Therapy Initiative – Central Intake,
Dauphin Regional Health Centre, 625 3rd Street S.W.,
Dauphin, Manitoba, R7N 1R7
Phone (204) 638-2164
Fax (204) 629-3430**

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What is the Parkland Children's Therapy Initiative? (PCTI)

The Children's Therapy Initiative - Parkland Region coordinates the delivery of therapy services (Occupational Therapy, Physiotherapy, Speech Language Pathology and Audiology) for children within boundaries of the Parkland Regional Health Authority.

Participating Partners:

- Family Services & Labour
- Rehabilitation Centre for Children
- Society for Manitobans with Disabilities
- Parkland Regional Health Authority
- Mountain View School Division
- Swan Valley School Division
- Turtle River School Division

The Children's Therapy Initiative - Parkland is a joint initiative of the provincial government funding partners of Education, Citizenship & Youth, Family Services & Labour, Health, Healthy Living, and Healthy Child Manitoba.

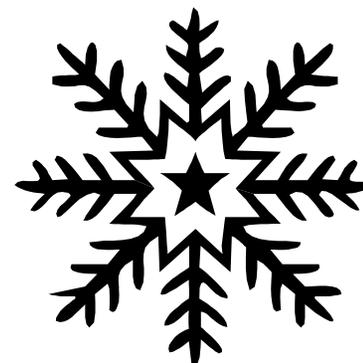
"The provincial initiative has chosen the emblem of the snowflake as a metaphor to reinforce the uniqueness of all children, families and communities. Each snowflake merges into a system that draws upon Manitoba's diversity, strength, and creativity to provide services to meet unique regional needs."

- Provincial Children's Therapy Initiative Planning Guide.

PCTI issue date: May 2006

Parkland Children's Therapy Initiative

Parkland Region (PCTI)



Coordinating Children's Therapy Services in the Parkland

"A New Way of Working Together"

Who is eligible?

- Any child (birth to school leaving) with an "identified developmental concern" in areas such as speech, hearing, movement, learning and social development.

Who can refer?

With parent/legal guardian consent, referrals can be made by any of the following service providers:

- Physicians and Pediatricians
- Child Development Clinic
- Other therapy services
- Preschool and school screening
- Public Health/Families First
- Child & Adolescent Mental Health
- Family Services & Labour
- Child Care Centres
- Child & Family Services Agencies
- School Divisions
- Parents can make direct referrals for Audiology by calling Central Intake

Where do referrals go?

- Referrals are sent to Central Intake at:

*Parkland Regional Therapy Services
Dauphin Regional Health Centre
Therapy Department
625 - 3rd Street SW
Dauphin, MB R7N 1R7
Phone: 1-204-638-2164
Toll Free: 1-800-259-7541*

- Referrals for school-based speech therapy will be retained within the school divisions. Referral information will then be sent to Central Intake at the Parkland Regional Therapy Services.

Who ensures that my referral is considered?

- Each referral will be reviewed at Central Intake and then directed to the appropriate therapy provider agency. The therapy agency will contact the family to begin the service planning and booking of appointments.

How will information be shared?

- Parental consent is required for the sharing of information between agencies providing services for the child.
- Parents, therapists and any other team members work together to identify goals and establish a plan to meet the child's needs.

Who will provide the therapy services?

- Trained occupational therapists, physiotherapists, speech-language pathologists, audiology assistant and audiologist work together with families and other team members to provide services within available resources.
- Therapy services may be provided in a variety of settings, depending upon the needs of the child/family.

Who are the agencies within PCTI who will be providing the therapy services?

- Parkland Regional Therapy Services - Parkland RHA
- Rehabilitation Centre for Children
- Society for Manitobans with Disabilities
- Local School Divisions:
Mountain View School Division
Swan Valley School Division
Frontier School Division
Turtle River School Division