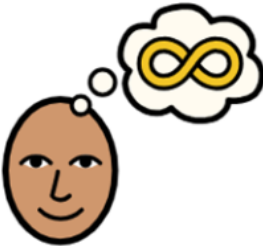




# Standard Pathway: Who is referred?



Children who have significant social communication needs, confirmed or suspected Early Childhood Developmental Delay (ECDD) and associated speech, language and communication needs.



Children who have suspected autism but do not meet the criteria for the Communication and Interaction Pathway.



Children will be at least 3 years old at the time of planned assessment.

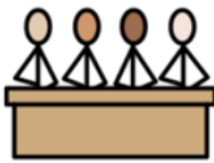


If children have started school, they may still be seen depending on:

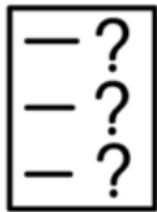
- Their date of birth
- How long they have been waiting
- If parent carers are willing to bring their child from school



# Standard Pathway: Decision Making Process



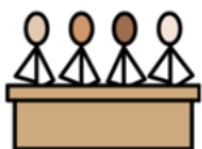
The Paediatrician makes a referral to the triage panel and requests a Schedule of Growing Skills (SOGS) assessment, if they have not already had one.



The Paediatrician will request further information from the child's education setting, if the child attends one.

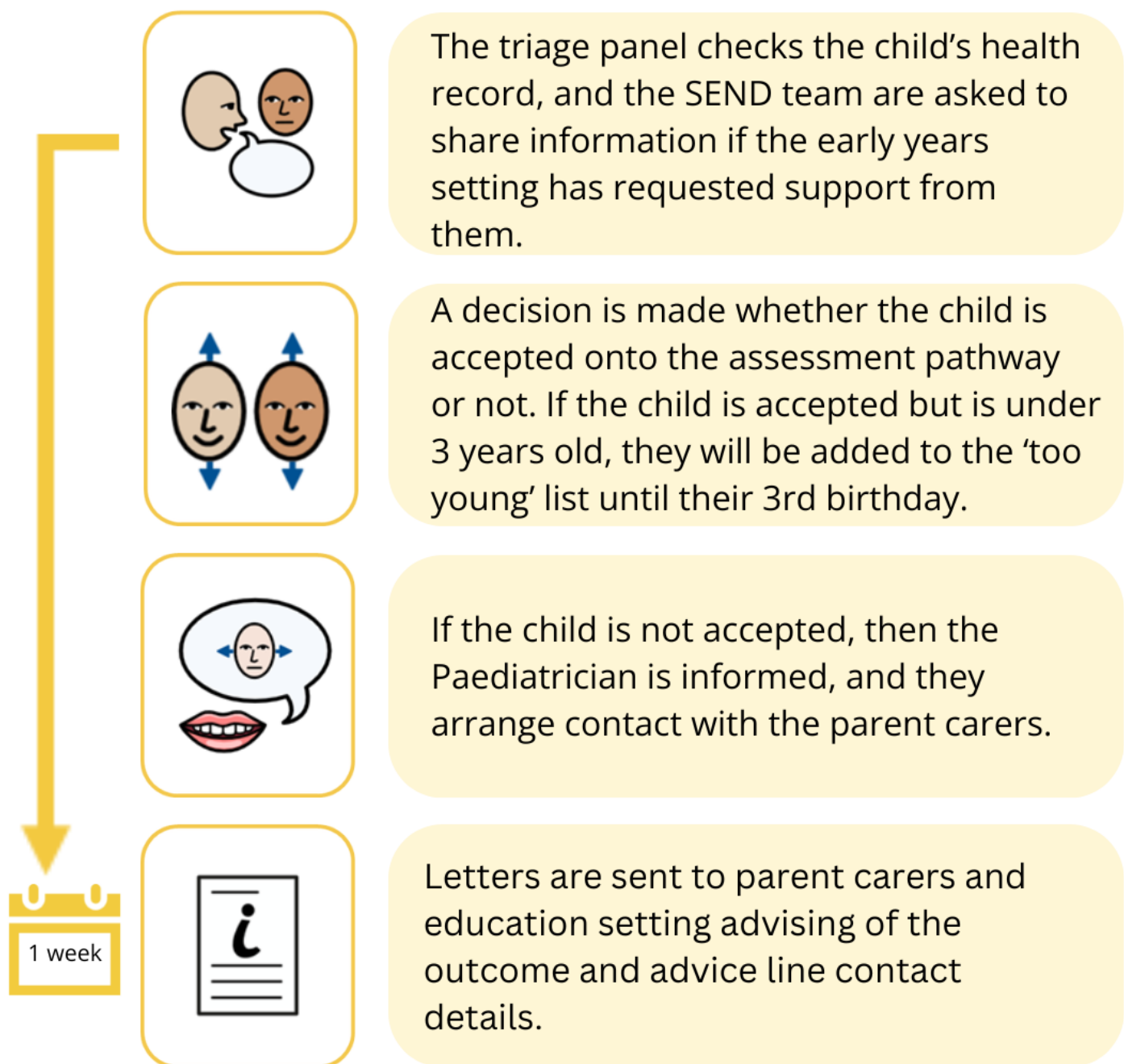


A list of children at panel is shared with colleagues from the Special Educational Needs and Disability (SEND) teams at the Local Authority (LA).



The triage panel meets monthly, and consists of a Paediatrician, Speech & Language Therapist (SLT), Specialist Nursery Nurse (SPNN), Admin, and SEND representatives.





NOTE: All timeframes provided are estimates.



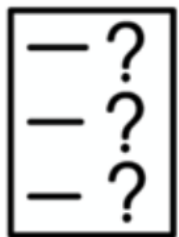
# Standard Pathway: Before the Assessment



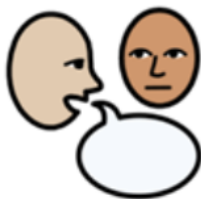
The Child Development Centre (CDC) admin team will call parent carers to check possible dates for assessment.



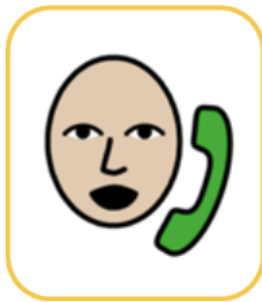
The CDC admin team send an appointment letter to parent carers with confirmed date, time and location of the assessment.



A questionnaire is sent electronically to parent carer and the early years setting to complete and return.



The Child's name and date of assessment is shared with the Educational Psychology Service (EPS).



A Specialist Nursery Nurse (SPNN) calls parent carer to explain the process for assessment.



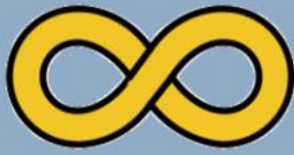
The Educational Psychologist (EP) may visit the child in their Early Years setting to observe and gather information.



All relevant information is collated using an autism diagnostic framework.

NOTE: All timeframes provided are estimates.





# Standard Pathway: During the Assessment



The family and child visit the Child Development Centre (CDC) for the assessment appointment. Professionals make observations and may complete formal assessments during the session



Professionals discuss their observations and update the autism diagnostic framework



Professionals give face to face detailed feedback to parent carer after the assessment and professionals discussion



An autism diagnosis can be given on the day, if the autism diagnostic framework is met.



An autism diagnosis will not be given if the diagnostic framework is not met.





# Standard Pathway: After the Assessment



A multi-disciplinary report will be finalised and sent electronically to families (with permission). The report is sent as soon as possible.



Parent carers are asked permission for copies of the report to be sent to the education setting, SEND teams, the child's GP and the health visiting service.



The report includes a summary of the reasons for or against any diagnosis and recommended actions and advice.



The Child Development Centre (CDC) advice line is available if parent carers have further questions for 6 months after the assessment.



The multi-disciplinary report can be used for up to 12 months after the assessment to inform an Education and Health Care Needs Assessment (EHCNA), if needed.

NOTE: All timeframes provided are estimates.