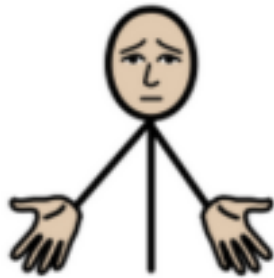




# C&I Pathway: Who is referred?



Children who have limited communication and social interaction skills.



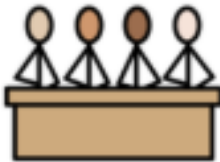
Children who are displaying autistic traits.



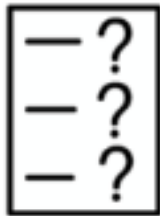
Children who are at least 3 years old.



# C&I Pathway: Decision Making Process



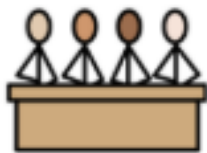
The Paediatrician makes a referral to the triage panel.



The Paediatrician will request further information from the child's early years setting, if they attend one.

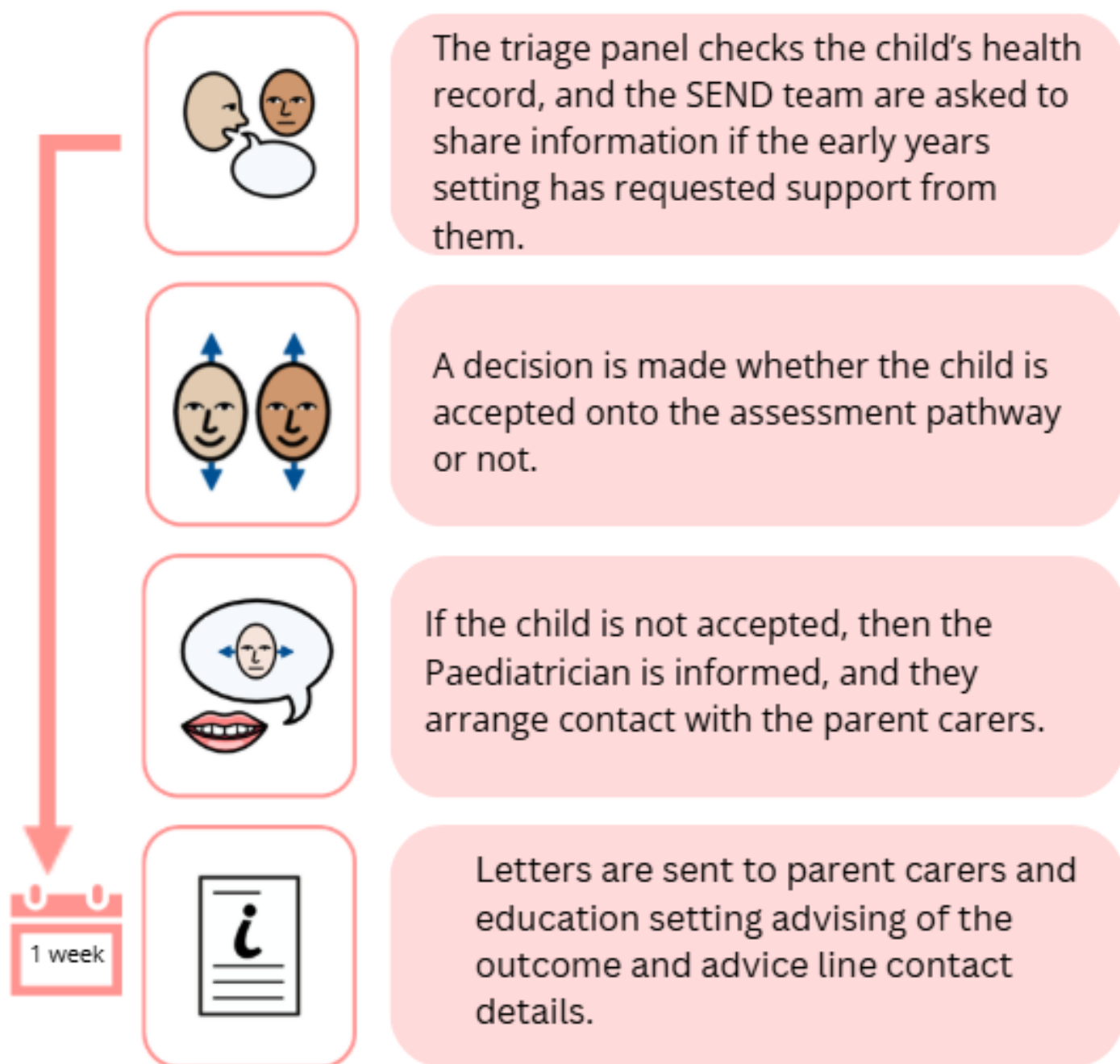


A list of children at panel is shared with colleagues from the Special Educational Needs and Disability (SEND) teams at the Local Authority (LA).



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.



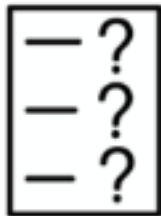
# C&I Pathway: Before the Assessment



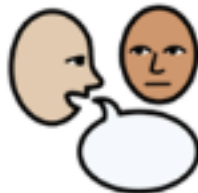
The Child Development Centre (CDC) admin team will call parent carers to check possible dates for assessment.



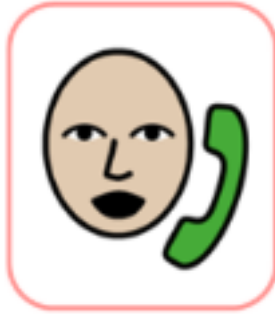
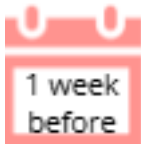
The CDC admin team send an appointment letter to parent carers with confirmed date, time and location of the assessment.



A questionnaire is sent electronically to parent carers 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). The EP may visit the child in their early years setting to observe and gather information.



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



All relevant information is collated using an autism diagnostic framework.

NOTE: All timeframes provided are estimates.



# C&I Pathway: During the Assessment



The family and child visit the Child Development Centre (CDC) at Stepping Stones (Telford) or Monkmoor (Shrewsbury) for the assessment appointment.



This is a group assessment with other children on the same pathway.



The parent carers spend time with one of the Speech and Language Therapists (SLTs) to discuss their child's strengths, needs and strategies to support their communication.



Speech and Language Therapists (SLT's) and Specialist Nursery Nurses (SPNN's) gather observations and add them to the autism diagnostic framework.





# C&I Pathway: After the Assessment



The Speech and Language Therapist (SLT) or Specialist Nursery Nurse (SPNN) have a video call on Microsoft Teams with the Paediatrician to discuss the observations and agree whether the criteria is met or not.



The child's parent carers are invited to join the online feedback meeting on Microsoft Teams where the decision will be discussed.



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



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 parents 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.