



Ceannasáí Seirbhíse, Cúram Príomhúil  
Eagraíocht Cúram Sláinte Pobail Baile Átha Cliath Theas,  
Cill Dara & Iarthar Chill Mhantáin  
Teach Darach, Páirc na Mílaoise, An Nás, Co. Chill Dara

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12<sup>th</sup> April 2019

John Lahart.  
Dáil Eireann,  
Dublin 2.

PQ 14864/19

**Kingswood, Tallaght, Dublin 24**

**To ask the Minister for Health the supports in place for the parents of child with dyspraxia in an area (details supplied); and if he will make a statement on the matter.**

**- John Lahart.**

Dear Deputy Lahart,

The Health Service Executive has been requested to reply directly to you in regard to your parliamentary question which you submitted to the Minister for Health for response. I have examined the matter and the following outlines the position.

Psychology:

Children with Dyspraxia are welcome in Primary Care Psychology if deemed appropriate and that psychology is required. The Paediatrician usually makes the diagnosis with the help of Occupational Therapy. Currently there is no Primary Care Psychology cover in Kingswood, East Tallaght.

Occupational Therapy:

Primary Care Paediatric Occupational Therapists can provide services to children with dyspraxia, this may include assessing their difficulties in areas such as fine motor skills, gross motor skills, their handwriting and school performance, and the effects on social skills and self-esteem. Children with dyspraxia with complex needs are eligible to access Occupational Therapy through the Disability service.

Physiotherapy:

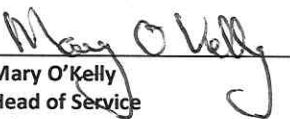
A child with dyspraxia (either diagnosed or suspected) with non-complex needs is eligible to access Physiotherapy Primary Care Services. The referral pathway can be through their GP, another Health and Social Care Professional or self-referral. Services include: individual assessment, the provision of a home exercise programme and either one to one therapy or group therapy depending on the needs of the child. A child with dyspraxia (either diagnosed or suspected) with complex needs is eligible to access Physiotherapy through the Disability service.

Speech & Language Therapy:

A speech and language Therapy assessment and diagnostic therapy are required to support a diagnosis of verbal dyspraxia. Children who present with this diagnosis are typically managed within Primary Care Speech and Language Therapy services. During assessment and intervention sessions parents are supported by providing advice and intervention activities for home practise. However, multidisciplinary team involvement is recommended if the child has complex needs in other areas of development within the Disability Service.

I trust this information is of assistance to you but if you have any queries or require any further information please do not hesitate to contact me.

Yours sincerely,

  
Mary O'Kelly  
Head of Service  
Primary Care