

FRESHFORD PRACTICE

Freshwell Health Centre

BLUE BADGE ADVICE TO PATIENTS

The Department for Transport (Dft) Blue Badge Scheme means that people with non-visible (hidden) disabilities may be eligible for a Blue Badge if they would experience 'considerable difficulty whilst walking, including psychological distress, or be at risk of serious harm to themselves or others'. So, for example, this could mean some with Alzheimers, Dementia, Autism, Crohn's disease could be eligible – even though they can physically walk. Applicants will need to submit 'professional' evidence to demonstrate how they meet the 'hidden' disability criteria

A list of suggested professionals is below, although this list is not exhaustive.

• Clinical Psychologist	ASD and Asperger's Syndrome
• Educational Psychologist	Child and adolescent mental health for children with special educational and additional complex needs, ASD and Asperger's Syndrome
• Gastroenterologist	Crohn's Disease, Ulcerative Colitis, Inflammatory Bowel Diseases
• Neurologist	Paediatric Neurodisability, ASD, ADHD, learning problems, behavioural and associated mental health, Seizures, Epilepsy, Amnesia, neuropathic pain
• Occupational Therapist	Wide range of conditions, most commonly difficulties due to mental health illness, physical or learning difficulties. Commonly facilitate independent mobility assessments on behalf of local authorities.
• Physiotherapist	Ehlers-Danlos Syndrome, Huntington's Disease, M.E. / CFS, major trauma. Transverse Myelitis. Commonly facilitate independent mobility assessments on behalf of local authorities
• Psychiatrist	Older peoples' mental health, applied health research & policy. ASD and other complex mental health disorders in children, young people, adults.

Freshford Practice

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Dr Ruth Stevenson Dr Samantha Low Dr Emma Hopgood
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<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Rheumatologist 	Paediatric rheumatology, pain management, Lupus, general rheumatology, inflammatory arthritis.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • SENCO 	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Mental Health Nurse 	

It is the applicant's decision of who is the most suitable professional to complete the form and we cannot advise who would be best.

As stated on the covering letter of the form, Essex County Council will not cover the cost of any fees incurred, therefore the applicant will either need to pay the fee or approach a different professional.

Version 1 23 September 2019

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