



Find out more about joining the Specialist Section
for Children, Young People and Families

e-Newsletters • Journals • CPD opportunities • Online resources • Networking • Events • Social media

www.rcot.co.uk/cypf

Royal College of
Occupational
Therapists



Specialist Section
Children,
Young People
and Families

Specialist Section

Children, Young People and Families

The Royal College of Occupational Therapists Specialist Section – Children, Young People and Families is a branch of the Royal College of Occupational Therapists (RCOT). The membership covers occupational therapy staff and students, educators, and researchers, who have an interest in or are working with, children, young people and their families in a wide range of practice settings. There are close links to service users, their parents and/or carers and associated organisations, such as education, local authorities and voluntary organisations.

All Specialist Sections are led by a National Executive Committee (NEC) made up of volunteers elected from the membership at the Annual Review Meeting (ARM). Members support fellow members at local and national levels across the United Kingdom (UK). All Specialist Section – Children, Young People and Families members must be members of RCOT.

Specialist Section – Children, Young People and Families members work in a variety of settings including acute hospitals, Children and Adolescent Mental Health Services (CAMHS), children's centres, child development teams, wheelchair services, education/schools, learning disability teams, and local authority social services, in universities as educators or in independent practice or the voluntary sector. The Specialist Section – Children, Young People and Families promotes and contributes to the development of high standards of professional practice in children's occupational therapy. It acts as an advisory body on issues of national significance for the development of occupational therapy for children, young people and their families.

There are several Clinical Fora within the Specialist Section – Children, Young People and Families, which meet to facilitate debates, networking and innovation in a specific domain of practice.

These include:

- Acute
- Children and Adolescent Mental Health(CAMHS)
- Autistic Spectrum Disorder (ASD)
- Neonatal and Early Intervention
- Physical Disabilities
- Managers and Leaders
- Looked After Children and Young People
- Children and Young People with Learning Disabilities

In addition to the above, a comprehensive network of regional groups across the UK offer support to our members by providing information through informal meetings, in addition to organising and running regional training events and courses.

Aims of the Specialist Section

- To raise the profile of occupational therapy for children, young people and their families.
- To support members in their practice, developing and maintaining effective communication channels with the regional groups and Clinical Fora.
- To develop learning events including a dedicated annual conference.
- To provide expert opinion in improving standards within children's services across health and social care, education and within the independent sector.
- To support members Continuing Professional Development needs at a local and national level.
- To provide advice and support for occupational therapy students interested in working with children and young people.
- To liaise directly with RCOT and RCOT Professional Advisor for Children and Young People.
- To promote the implementation of evidence informed best practice within children's occupational therapy across the UK.
- To provide resources and information via publications, social media, webpages and newsletters.
- To support the research of children's occupational therapy interventions including the awarding the Annual Research Award to an individual member.

Membership Benefits

- **Journal:** The journal is published twice a year and features articles, book reviews, reports and up-to-date information relating to all areas of occupational therapy for children, young people and families. Members are encouraged to contribute to the journal as a way of sharing current practice and new service developments.
- **e-Newsletter:** The Specialist Section – Children, Young People and Families publishes a bi-monthly e-Newsletter that is sent to all members, a sample of which can be found on the website.
- **Research support:** The Specialist Section – Children, Young People and Families have an Annual Research Award, which can be applied for by members who require financial support in order to undertake research. Support, advice and guidance is also offered to members wishing to undertake research as well as access to the membership for studies with ethical approval.
- **Reduced fees:** Members can qualify for discounted rates when attending our events both on a regional and national basis.
- **Website and social media:** The Specialist Section – Children, Young People and Families has an active social media presence, with platforms on Twitter and Facebook. The webpage

Specialist Section Children, Young People and Families

has up-to-date information of forthcoming events, regional groups and Clinical Fora contacts. The Facebook group is a closed group and is accessed by Specialist Section – Children, Young People and Families members only.

- **Annual conference:** The only conference for occupational therapists working with for children and young people, with a heavily discounted member rate.
- **Regional Groups and Clinical Fora:** Membership includes access to the regional groups and Clinical Fora, offering affordable high quality training, networking opportunities, opportunities to produce guidelines and other publications.
- **Volunteer opportunities:** There are opportunities to volunteer on the NEC, regional groups and Clinical Fora to further the development of the Specialist Section – Children, Young People and Families.

For more information about the Specialist Section – Children, Young People and Families please visit our website: rcot.co.uk/cypf

Q: How do I join Specialist Section – Children, Young People and Families?

A: Please visit the web pages and download our membership form at rcot.co.uk/cypf

Q: How long does my membership last?

A: The membership runs for one year from the date of activation of your account.

Q: Who can join?

A: Anyone who is a member of the RCOT.

Q: Can I belong to more than one Specialist Section?

A: Yes, you can belong to as many as you wish.

For further information contact:

Email: cypfss@outlook.com or specialistsectionadmin@rcot.co.uk



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@RCOT_CYPF



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People and Families**

www.rcot.co.uk/cypf

Royal College of Occupational Therapists Limited

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