Referral Process

- Referrals can be made through the Learning Support Teacher based at each school.

- The referral form seeks to obtain information regarding:
  - Difficulties in the classroom
  - Relevant medical history
  - Previous and current intervention

- Parental permission is essential before a student is seen by the Occupational Therapist.

For additional information please contact:

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Therapy & Disability Coordinator
lcarroll@cns.catholic.edu.au

Student Services
Catholic Education Services
130 Lake St.
PO Box 5296, Cairns Q 4870
Tel: (07) 4050 9722
Fax: (07) 4051 2859
Web: www.cns.catholic.edu.au
Occupational Therapists address functional and foundation skills that are necessary for learning and important for everyday life. The Occupational Therapist may assess and advise regarding:

- **Self care**
  For example: dressing, eating, toileting, hygiene

- **Adaptive skills**
  For example: general classroom functioning, organisational skills

- **Cognitive skills**
  For example: memory, attention, problem solving, planning

- **Sensory processing**
  For example: difficulty sitting still, poor concentration, tactile defensiveness, visual perception

- **Play skills**

- **Adaptive equipment and environmental access**

- **Fine motor skills, handwriting and computer skills**

### Services

As part of the educational team, Occupational Therapy services can include:

- Individual student assessment/classroom observations
- Advice regarding classroom programming and adjustments
- Attendance at Individual Education Programme meetings, parent meetings and planning
- Support and training for teachers and school officers
- Intervention planning and school-based therapy programmes

Catholic Education’s Occupational Therapy service is provided to students who have been verified with a disability or who are in the process of being verified.

**What do Occupational Therapists do?**

Occupational Therapists can contribute in a number of ways to assist students in the school setting. The focus of Occupational Therapy is to enhance and optimise a student’s educational outcomes and participation in school.

Occupational Therapists are specialists at analysing activities and modifying them so that the student can achieve to their best ability.