



*Enabling Greater
Independence*

Mobility equipment assessment information for disabled people, the elderly, their carers and healthcare professionals



Email: info@wmdlc.org • Website: www.wmdlc.org

Call: 0113 350 8989 • Text: 07858 224510

Leeds • Sheffield • York • Doncaster • Scarborough • Huddersfield

(Not all services are available at every location)

Registered Charity Number: 513001 • Company Number: 1638939



@wmdlc

The William Merritt Centre provides impartial advice, information and assessments for disabled people of all ages, people with long term conditions, their carers and professionals.

What is an assessment?

An occupational therapist will collect your information and ask questions to better understand your individual needs. Following this, an assessment will be conducted where you can try various pieces of equipment. Based on the results, the occupational therapist will prepare a report recommending specific mobility equipment options from a variety of suppliers. We may also be able to suggest charities that could assist with funding for the recommended equipment.

Who can have an assessment?

We offer impartial assessments for people in West Yorkshire. However, we can provide assessments from other areas too. You can book a self-referral assessment by contacting us, or a healthcare professional can refer you on your behalf.



Anyone can drop in and have a look around the Centre, but if you wish to see a therapist head to wmdlc.org/booking to make an appointment.

"We found a switch that worked, this means we can now borrow switch adapted toys from the William Merritt Centre. Olive can now play on her own giving her independence that she has never had before, it also means I can sit down and have a cup of tea. Looking to the future the William Merritt Centre have given us lots of information about equipment available to Olive such as adapted iPads and wizzybugs. We are really excited about this, getting help from the William Merritt Centre means that Olive can join in and can have fun."

Technology assessment

"I cannot thank Lauren (WMC occupational therapist), Janet and Jayne (WMC approved driving instructors) enough. You have transformed my life when I was losing my independence. I live in a village and having a driving licence is essential. Thanks to your team, I shall soon be mobile again."

Driving assessment

"I had an assessment and they recommended equipment that was perfect for me. It's great to 'try before you buy' and the impartial advice ensured I bought the right thing first time."

Mobility equipment assessment

SwitchTech

We support individuals with physical disabilities in using switches as an alternative access method to engage with the world around them. Switches can be operated by any part of the body where intentional movement is possible making them highly adaptable to each person's needs. Initially, switches may be used for simple cause-and-effect activities, choice-making, or play, helping users build essential skills and confidence. Over time, these same skills can support more advanced and independent use of powered wheelchairs, communication devices (AAC), video games, environmental controls, and access to phones, tablets, and computers.

Switches for toys

The Centre has developed a loan library of adapted toys and switches. We have a wide selection of toys including bubble machines, fans, musical and remote control toys, all of which have been adapted to use with a variety of switches.

Accessible gaming

We have adaptive interfaces that allow standard games consoles to be used with switches and joysticks. These interfaces make PlayStations, Xboxes, and Nintendo consoles accessible, enabling individuals with physical challenges to enjoy gaming more independently.

Computer, tablets, iPad & phone access

Access to technology is a vital part of daily life-something many take for granted. At the Centre, we support individuals of all ages in gaining greater independence through the use of accessible technology.

We provide guidance and solutions to help users access:

- PCs, Macs, and laptops
- iPhones and iPads
- Android phones and tablets

Whether it's for communication, learning, or leisure, we work with each person to find the tools and access methods that best meet their needs.



Children's assessments

We work with disabled children and those with life limiting illnesses from birth onwards, to enable them to try equipment suitable for home, play, education, leisure, mobility and transport.

We offer a try before you buy ethos allowing clients to identify equipment to meet the needs of individuals and their families. We can arrange assessments with companies who specialise in children's equipment and we will give you details of how to purchase products.

You may be able to apply for charitable funding for equipment, if statutory funding is not available. Our occupational therapists can provide a report to support an application for your child. Head to wmdlc.org/booking to make an appointment

Clinics

Our specialist team assess for postural and supportive equipment and also safety of your child.

We offer assessments for:

- Buggies
- Wheelchairs
- Bathing and showering
- Switches & adapted toys
- Powered mobility
- Try b4u Fly
- Beds
- Seating
- Accessible gaming
- Technology

"It's not just about my son being able to learn cause and effect through powered mobility; the joy and emotion of seeing him being able to get about by himself is overwhelming."

Assessments for adults

If you're finding daily living activities challenging or are looking to live more independently, please contact the Centre to enquire about a free mobility equipment assessment. Our service allows you to try out equipment to make sure it's right for you, and if you need items from a supplier we don't currently have on display, we can arrange for it to be brought in.

To make an appointment, please head to our website:
wmdlc.org/booking

Shopmobility

We offer wheelchair and scooter hire for people with limited mobility to shop and explore the White Rose Shopping Centre, Leeds

Bedroom - beds and hoists

We have a range of beds and hoists to improve your sleep and make getting in and out of bed easier.

Kitchen

Our assessment will give you solutions to manage in the kitchen. We also have a range of different types of cutlery, drinking utensils and gadgets to open tins and jars.

Bathroom

We have a range of bath equipment including battery operated bathlifts, inflatable bathlifts, and a wet floor shower and walk in shower in the Centre. We also have a demonstration of wash and dry toilets which can be tried.

Travel on your stairs safely

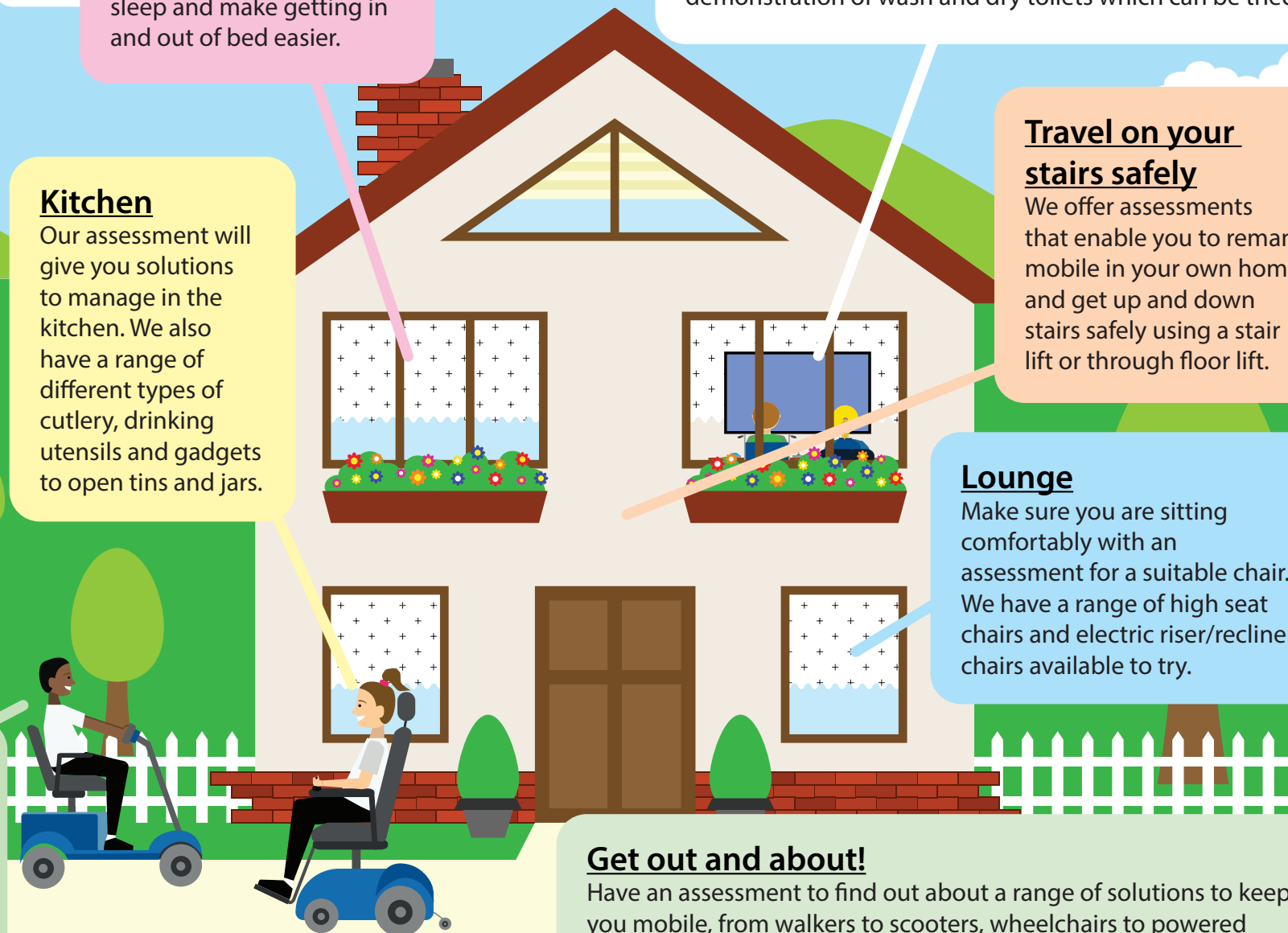
We offer assessments that enable you to remain mobile in your own home and get up and down stairs safely using a stair lift or through floor lift.

Lounge

Make sure you are sitting comfortably with an assessment for a suitable chair. We have a range of high seat chairs and electric riser/recliner chairs available to try.

Get out and about!

Have an assessment to find out about a range of solutions to keep you mobile, from walkers to scooters, wheelchairs to powered mobility, aeroplane travel to public transport, it's our aim to enable greater independence.



Driving

We offer services for both drivers and passengers. Our assessments are suitable for anyone with limited mobility or medical conditions which may affect their driving safety or comfort, whether you would like to review your current driving ability, are a novice driver or are looking to return to driving after a break.

Our goal is to help people drive safely for as long as possible. Driving assessments are available in Leeds, Sheffield, York, Doncaster, Scarborough, and Huddersfield.

Our team of occupational therapists and approved driving instructors, provides a variety of assessments, including:

- Fitness to drive
- Vehicle adaptations
- Passenger access
- Wheelchair accessible vehicles
- Wheelchair/scooter storage
- Driving lessons
- Theory test support
- Mature driving appraisal



You can refer for an assessment using our online forms at wmdlc.org/booking. You can call us on 0113 350 89 89 for support.

Travel hubs mobility advice service

If you are unable to drive, our travel hubs service offer FREE information and support to help you maintain your independence. This service includes:

- Accessible buses and coaches
- Easy access rail and air travel
- Community transport
- Rights as a disabled passenger
- Hiring or purchasing the right scooters and wheelchairs
- Local, national and international travel planning

Try b4u Fly

Try b4u Fly is an air travel seating and support assessment to make flying more comfortable. Assessments take place in a cabin environment so you can plan your next flight. There is a charge for this assessment – please contact the Centre for information. Examples of the equipment you can try during your assessment include:

- Burnett Body Support
- Meru Travel Chair
- AAT Stabilo cushions
- Travel Snug
- Crelling Harness
- Cares Harness
- Promove slings
- Firefly GoTo Seat



"I had an assessment so I could fly to Fuerteventura and loved it so much that when we got back I booked my dream trip to Disney World."

Please call:
0113 350 8989
before you
arrange your
flight to book an
assessment.

Shopmobility

We offer wheelchair and scooter hire for people with limited mobility to shop and explore the White Rose Shopping Centre, Leeds. To help our clients explore their surroundings more easily, we also provide long-term hire of mobility equipment. Additionally, we sell pre-loved mobility equipment and a variety of daily living aids designed to enhance independence.

Booking in advance is preferable in order to secure your scooter and wheelchair hire. Head to wmdlc.org/shopmobility to find out more.



Moving and Handling – Train the Trainer (5 Days)

This comprehensive 5-day certificated course follows the National Back Exchange guidelines. It will give delegates the skills and knowledge they need to create and deliver moving and handling training in their own setting. It will also enable them to support and supervise their own staff in the future. The course includes practical sessions and offers continued support to delegates after the completion of the course.

Train the Trainer – Annual Update

The National Back Exchange recommends that everyone who has attended a moving and handling training course then attends an annual update. The course offers up-to-date content to reflect current best practice in moving and handling. The content is updated every year and is designed to refresh and consolidate existing knowledge and provide delegates with new information and skills.



Please visit wmdlc.org/moving-handling-training for dates and the moving and handling course booking form.

Room Hire

We have 5 meetings rooms available to hire at the Centre catering for 4 to 40 people in a range of set up styles - boardroom, U shape or auditorium.

Perfect for:

- Meetings
- Presentations
- Demonstrations*
- Workshops

*Moving and handling equipment is available including two electric profiling beds, ceiling and mobile hoists, slide sheets and patient turners.

Meeting Room Hire includes:

- Free parking
- Presentation equipment
- Tea and coffee trolley
- Table and chairs
- Level access throughout the Centre
- Changing Places facilities

For prices and to book, please see website: wmdlc.org/room-hire



Educational Tours for Students

We provide tours where you can explore and try out some of the equipment, learn more about our services, and gain a better understanding of disability-related issues and how mobility equipment can support independence and daily living. If you have specific needs, we'd be happy to tailor the tour to suit your requirements.



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We are open Monday to Friday, 8.30 am to 4.30 pm excluding bank holidays.



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