

Wheel of Health Clinical Profile

Emma Wakeling

Senior Clinical Associate | Occupational Therapist

Role	Senior Clinical Associate
Profession	Occupational Therapist
Professional registration	HCPC registered Occupational Therapist
Region	Devon
Specialist focus	Postural management, wheeled mobility and wheelchair service leadership

Professional profile

Emma Wakeling has extensive experience in postural management and wheeled mobility, having worked for over 40 years as an Occupational Therapist in NHS and private practice settings. She has specialist skills in assessing adults and children with complex needs and advising on postural management, wheelchair prescription and associated pressure care. Emma developed her knowledge through many years as Clinical Lead and Team Manager for the NHS wheelchair service based at Roehampton. She is self-motivated, organised and collaborative, working with clients, families and carers to find appropriate solutions for individual clinical and lifestyle needs.

Specialist clinical expertise

- Postural assessment and postural management
- Manual and powered wheelchair prescription
- Children's buggies, armchairs and pressure relieving cushions
- Complex disability across adults and children
- Wheelchair service leadership and development
- Collaborative working with families, carers and professionals
- Holistic equipment recommendations

Contribution to Wheel of Health

Emma brings longstanding specialist wheelchair service leadership and clinical expertise to Wheel of Health. Her experience supports robust, pragmatic and person-centred recommendations for individuals with complex postural and mobility needs, with a strong focus on matching clinical requirements to lifestyle and care context.

Clinical experience

Dates	Role / organisation	Relevant focus
2016 - Present	Senior Associate, Wheel of Health	Independent posture and wheelchair seating specialist Occupational Therapist based in Devon.
1998 - 2016	Head Occupational Therapist / Team Leader, Wheelchair Services, St George's University Hospitals NHS Foundation Trust	Led wheelchair services at Queen Mary's Hospital, Roehampton, supporting service growth across south west London.
1986 - 1998	Senior Occupational Therapist Roles, St George's University Hospitals NHS Foundation Trust	Worked in wheelchair services and neurology outpatients.
1978 - 1985	Earlier Occupational Therapy Roles	Roles in care of the elderly, stroke rehabilitation, orthopaedics, general medicine, oncology and hand injuries.

Education and qualifications

- Diploma College of Occupational Therapy, London School of Occupational Therapy
- Ongoing professional development including PMG, body symmetry, bereavement and loss, leadership and postural management training

Professional registration and memberships

- Health and Care Professions Council - Occupational Therapist
- Royal College of Occupational Therapists
- Royal College of Occupational Therapists Specialist Section - Independent Practice
- Posture and Mobility Group

Governance and quality assurance statement

Emma works within Wheel of Health's clinical governance framework and maintains appropriate professional registration, professional indemnity, continuing professional development and standards of documentation, communication, safeguarding and professional accountability. This supports consistent, person-centred assessment, clinically reasoned recommendations and high-quality reporting across Wheel of Health services.