Lying Assessment Procedure

INTRODUCTION
The lying assessment may be carried out as part of a complete postural review that should also look at standing and sitting. Areas of loadbearing, symmetry, and the prominent pelvic and shoulder girdle positions should be noted. See the Assessment Charts for further details.

LYING ASSESSMENT PROCEDURE
Make sure the child is happy and knows what is happening. Note the reasons for the referral and specific problems relating to his posture.

Look at the child in his present equipment. Using the Assessment Chart, assess the Chailey Level of Ability, noting any specific problems. Check the equipment for signs of excessive wear once he has been removed. The individual should be placed on a treatment mat in supine, allowing him to assume his preferred position. Next, encourage him to achieve his highest level of ability without assistance.

Assess the level of ability, referring the Assessment Charts for further information if you need to. Check lower limb alignment and range of motion, noting any actual or potential deformity. Repeat this process with the child in prone. If this is not possible, note the reasons.

MEASUREMENTS
Take the following measurements when the child is correctly positioned and supported:

a) Hip Width       Width across greater trochanters
b) Heel to Groin  From the bottom of the heel to the groin, less 2cm.
c) Heel to Hip     From the floor or heel to the greater trochanter
d) Heel to Axilla  Floor or heel to the axilla, less 2cm
e) Hip to Axilla   From the greater trochanter to the axilla, less 2cm
f) Overall Height  Floor or heel to top of head

All the measurements are STRAIGHT LINE MEASURES. For example, Pelvic Width is the distance across the pelvis NOT the circumference around it. Remember to be consistent with the units you use for measuring, and always record the units on any documentation. Note any special requirements or circumstances. For example, the child may be very strong in a particular way, or maybe special support wedges or pommel are required.