

## About CLCH NHS Trust

The speech and language therapy service is provided by Central London Community Healthcare NHS Trust.

For more information visit [www.clch.nhs.uk](http://www.clch.nhs.uk)

Complaints and compliments: If you would like to comment on the services we provide please tell the SLT or you can contact the Trust's Customer Service team on 0800 368 0412 : [clchpals@nhs.net](mailto:clchpals@nhs.net)

**Please contact us for more information on: 020 8102 3575**

**Our clinics are:**

**Kensington and Chelsea:**

**Colville Health Centre**

51 Kensington Park Road  
London W11 1PA

**Worlds End Health Centre**

529 King's Road, Chelsea, London  
SW10 0UD

**Hammersmith and Fulham:**

**Parsons Green Health Centre**

5-7 Parsons Green, London SW6 4UL

**Parkview Centre for Health and Wellbeing,**

Cranston Court, First Floor, 56 Bloemfontein Road,  
London. W12 7FG

**Westminster:**

**The Medical Centre**

7e Woodfield Road  
London W9 3XZ

**Lisson Grove Health Centre**

Gateforth Street London NW8 8EG

**Bessborough Street Clinic**

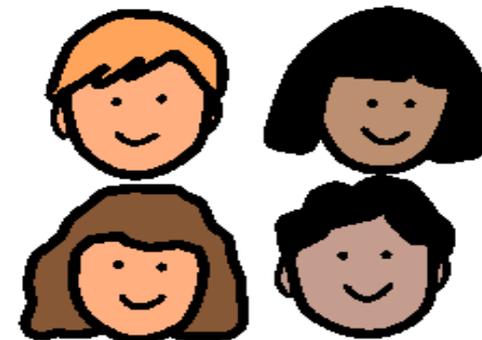
1 Bessborough Street  
London SW1V 2JD

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**Central London  
Community Healthcare**  
NHS Trust

## Early Years Speech and Language Therapy (SLT) (for 0-5 year olds)



## What to expect from your SLT service

July 2019

**Research shows** that young children learn new words, and language skills when they interact and have conversations with familiar adults (usually their parents) during everyday activities & routines (such as bath time, brushing teeth, mealtimes, shopping, playing, reading a book)

## Referral

When your child is referred to speech and language therapy, Our target is to see them within 12 weeks of referral. We will call/write to you so that you can arrange an appointment. We offer appointments during standard working hours. Whilst there is some flexibility, your child may need to be taken out of nursery/ daycare in order to attend.

## Initial appointment:

Your first appointment will be an assessment session. The assessment lasts up to 45 minutes.

The speech and language therapist (SLT) will gather information regarding your child's development by asking you questions and playing with your child. At the end of the session, there will be time to discuss the findings and agree a plan. The therapist will write a report with a summary of your child's skills.

If your child has speech, language/ communication needs you will be invited to a Parent Workshop so that you can learn skills to support your child's development

## Gateway Parent Workshop:

The first therapy appointment after assessment is a parent workshop. At the workshop the therapist will discuss how you can support your child at home & get the most from SLT help

If your child does not have speech, language, communication needs or you cannot attend the help offered at this stage then your child will be discharged.

## Discharged

Attendance at Parent Workshops is essential before we can offer you any further support. This first workshop is for 1 hour for parents only. Please do not bring children. Your role is key in supporting your child's communication development.

**Therapy appointments:** After attendance at the Parent Workshop, you will **be seen**, either individually or in a group -with your child. These sessions will support you to learn strategies and skills so that you can confidently support your child's development at home. After each block of sessions & your home practice, we will review your child's progress with you.

**Discharged:** Children are discharged from the service if they are making the expected progress in their communication and their parents have strategies to support them. Children will be discharged if appointments are not attended &/or parents are unable to practice home strategies & skills.

## How does therapy support work?:

**Your role:** As parents you are the experts in your children. You spend the most time with your child-during everyday interactions, routines and activities – this is where children's communication develops. In therapy the Speech and Language Therapist will only spend around 30 minutes with your child at any therapy session. What makes the difference in supporting your child's development is what happens with you, at home, during meaningful everyday interaction in functional routines and activities. You may need support from the speech and language therapist -to gain information & learn what to do at home.

**Our role:** To support you to develop the skills and confidence to know how to interact and help your child during activities and routines at home (bath time, mealtimes, playing, shopping etc). What you do everyday with your child is key & more important to effectively support their development, than the number of therapy sessions your child has with the speech and language therapist– that's why your attendance as parents at appointments is key to support your child's development

## **To support your child's development in therapy it is essential for you to:**

- Be on time. We will be unable to see your child if you arrive more than 10 minutes late.
- Contact the clinic as soon as possible to let us know if you absolutely cannot attend a session so we can offer the session to another child. It is not possible to re-schedule cancelled appointments.
- Practise therapy ideas daily at home during everyday interactions across daily activities & routines
- Ensure that someone with parental responsibility gives consent to the assessment and treatment of your child.

We will offer you the first available appointment. If you are unable to attend and request a different date or time, you may have to wait longer. **We look forward to working with you to support your child.**

Not all children with speech, language and communication needs will need to be seen by a SLT. The service supports children and families by working closely with those in the community who are also supporting children to ensure that their needs can be met in the child's environment.