

Spring Term 2019

Speech and Language Therapy Update: Hammersmith & Fulham Parents Forum

The Central London Community Healthcare Speech and Language Therapy Service (CLCH SLT) is pleased to welcome you to our Spring Term Newsletter. The Newsletter is one element of our commitment to communicate and collaborate with you regularly, providing you with a termly update of local SLT information.

If you have any questions or suggestions for future content then we would be very pleased to hear from you. All contact details for our SLT Locality Leads can be found at the end of this update.

SLT Overview

Research clearly shows that young children's early language and communication development is strongly related to school readiness at age four. Language skills are a critical area of development in young children. The SLT service is delivered on the well-researched principle that children's communication skills are best developed through interactions with the people who are most familiar with the children and young people, across functional everyday routines and activities and within their natural environments (e.g. everyday activities & routines: bath time, brushing teeth, mealtimes, shopping, playing, reading a book etc). Speech, language and communication needs (SLCN) have been found to be the most common of childhood developmental difficulties. The SLT service has a strong focus on early identification and intervention and strives to support children and young people to reach their speech, language and communication potential, whatever their level of ability and preferred communication method.

Service Updates

Reducing missed clinic appointments: Cancellations and Non-attendance are a key challenge for the Early years SLT service. We are working hard as a service to reduce the number of missed appointments as these are costly and prevent children/parents accessing essential support. We are sending out text appointment reminders to all our families. Children will be discharged from the service if appointments fail to be attended. Therapy support cannot be effective if parents do not attend appointments so please prioritise SLT appointments. You are always welcome to bring along a nursery staff member along to an appointment for support if you would like.

We have been talking to parents about how we can reduce missed appointments, and we are sending text messages to remind families of their appointments. If you have any further ideas please contact Tashia Pillay, Locality Lead (details below).

New Initiatives

Parent / Carer Gateway Workshops: H&F Early Years SLT Team has had positive feedback about the parent/ carer workshops for families which they access prior to their first therapy block. The aim of the workshops are to support parent / carer's understanding of how SLT works and how parent / carers have the most important role in supporting the development of their child's communication skills. The SLT 's role is to work in partnership with parents to develop parental skills and confidence to support their child's communication development in their natural home environment.

On the 21st May the SLT team ran an evening parent/carers gateway workshop from 6.30-7.30pm at Parkview Centre for Health and Care. It was a great success and the attendance from parents was excellent.

We are going to be running it again on Tuesday 9th July 6.30-7.30pm. There will also be a Saturday workshop that H&F residents can access on Saturday 20th July at Colville Health Centre (Kensington and Chelsea) for parents with children assessed by the SLT service, and where families have been invited by SLT.

NSPCC's Look, Say, Sing, Play campaign

H&F are the first Local Authority to work in Partnership with the NSPCC to launch the Look, Say, Sing, Play campaign which focuses on building strong brain architecture in 0-2 years. The Early Years SLT team will work in partnership with colleagues in the Children's Centres to reinforce the key messages to parents through everyday activities and interaction opportunities.

Please see NSPCC website for more information <https://www.nspcc.org.uk/preventing-abuse/keeping-children-safe/look-say-sing-play/>

List of Leads

Our SLT Paediatric Leadership Group contact details are detailed below. If you have any specific queries then please get in touch with the relevant service lead. We would be pleased to hear from you.

| Job Title | Name | Contact Email Address |
|--|--------------------|--|
| Clinical Business Unit Manager & Professional Lead for SLT | Freda O'Driscoll | Freda.o'driscoll@nhs.net |
| Transformation Lead for SLT | Jennifer Griffin | Jennifer.griffin@nhs.net |
| Early Years SLT Locality Leads H&F | Tashia Pillay | tplillay@nhs.net |
| Early Years SLT Dysphagia Lead | Debbie Vint | debbie.vint@nhs.net |
| Education SLT Locality Lead H&F | Kim Lewis | Kimlewis2@nhs.net |
| Education Special Schools Lead | Bryony Schnadhorst | bryony.schnadhorst@nhs.net |
| Education Dysphagia and Complex Needs | Rachel Dickens | rachel.dickens@nhs.net |

Speech and Language Therapy Training Offer

The Early Years' Service provides training for parents and practitioners. **Parents and practitioners are invited to attend training at any sites.** Unless specified no booking is required. Please remember there are no crèche facilities available, so please do not bring your child with you. Please contact your speech and language therapist at your local clinic if you require any further information about any of the training sessions. Details of these sessions can be found [here](#)

Understanding Autism Spectrum Disorder After Diagnosis

Thursday 4th July 10-12pm First Floor , The Medical Centre, 7e Woodfield Road, W9 3XZ

Friday 4th October 10-12pm Cheyne Child Development Service, Doughty House, Chelsea & Westminster Hospital, 369 Fulham Road SW10 9NH

Wednesday 27th November 10-12pm First Floor The Medical Centre, 7e Woodfield Road, W9 3XZ

Parent workshops for children with social communication difficulties / autism spectrum disorder

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| Speech and Language Therapy | Tuesday 17 th of September 10am-12pm | Stephen Wiltshire Centre, Queensmill Road, SW6 6JR |
| Occupational Therapy | Tuesday 22 nd of October 10am-12pm | Stephen Wiltshire Centre, Queensmill Road, SW6 6JR |
| Educational Psychology | Tuesday 19 th of November 10am-12pm | Stephen Wiltshire Centre, Queensmill Road, SW6 6JR |

Digital Offer: We are working hard to improve our digital offer. This includes information that parents can access from websites, and short videos with tips to support communication skills. If you have any ideas or opinions, please get in touch!

Speech and Language Therapy Drop In Sessions

Speech and Language Therapy will be attending the following Drop-Ins; you can attend these sessions to speak about your child's speech, language and communication skills with a member of the SLT team.

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| Tuesday 11/06/19 09:30am-11:30am | Old Oak Children's Centre | 60-70 Norland Road London W11 4TX |
| Tuesday 18/06/19 10.00am-12pm | Edward Woods Centre | 76 Braybrook St, White City, London W12 0AP |

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|----------------------------------|---------------------------|--------------------------|
| Tuesday 9/07/19 1.45pm-3.30pm | Bayonne Children's centre | 50 Paynes Walk W6 8PF |
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On a Tuesday at Randolph Beresford we will be running a targeted group for children:

9.15 -10.15am

4th June – 16th July ***no session on 25th June Randolph Beresford Early Years Centre Australia Rd,
London W12 7PH

