

Contact details

Early Years Team

For all enquiries, including:

- Attention difficulties
- Social communication difficulties
- Language delay
- Complex needs
- Stuttering
- Hearing loss
- Speech sound difficulties

Please contact:

Clinical Navigator
Leatherhead Clinic
Poplar Road
Leatherhead
Surrey
KT22 8SD
01372 384 305

CSH.childrensclinicalnavigator@nhs.net

For further information and resources please visit:

www.cshsurrey.co.uk/our-services/service-children/speech-and-language-therapy

Follow us on Twitter: @CSHpaedtherapy



Need to contact the service?

Please see the Contact details section of this leaflet.

Your experiences

CSH Surrey is committed to putting people first and continually improving services through listening and responding to feedback. To share your experiences, please:

Call: 01306 646 223

Email: CSH.Feedback@nhs.net

Or write to the Governance Office address below.

Large print, audio format or another language

Call 01306 646 223

or email CSH.Communications@nhs.net to receive this information in large print, audio format or another language.

General enquiries

Visit www.cshsurrey.co.uk for information and contact details for all other CSH Surrey services.

A heart in the community

CSH Surrey, proud to be part of the CSH Group. As a social enterprise, CSH makes profit to benefit local communities and to enhance its health and care services.



Quality & Governance Office,
CSH Surrey, Leatherhead Hospital, Poplar Road,
Leatherhead, Surrey, KT22 8SD

Company registered number 5700920



Shared reading

Information and advice for parents, carers and professionals from CSH Surrey Early Years Speech and Language Service

Better healthcare together

CSH Surrey, providing NHS community nursing and therapy services in the homes, schools, clinics and hospitals in the heart of Surrey since 2006.

How will sharing books develop my child's speech and language skills?

Books contain lots of opportunities to learn vocabulary that your child may not come across in their everyday life.

Repetition is key to children learning new words. Books are a great way to recap new vocabulary as children love to hear the same story over and over again.

Books also offer great opportunities to promote attention and listening skills, which are important for language development.

Turning book reading into a conversation has been shown to have a positive effect on children's language development.

At what age should I start reading with my child?

Babies are thought to be able to hear their parent's voices even before they are born. So it is never too early to start reading.

Top tips for using books to develop language skills

Remove distractions. Turn off the TV/radio in order to help your child fully focus on the book for ten to fifteen minutes.

Follow your child's lead by letting them choose a book to look at together. Children are much more likely to learn about what they are interested in.

Watch and wait for your child to point to pictures or say words and then join in.

Extend what your child says, so if they say "Look, monkey" you could say "Yes, the monkey is swinging".

Leave gaps in familiar stories for your child to fill in e.g. "I'll huff and I'll puff and I'll...." (blow your house down).

Use toys and objects, gestures and actions. This helps make the story come alive and makes it easier for your child to understand the words you are saying. Using actions alongside words also supports a child's memory skills.

Have fun! Use facial expressions and different voices to make it more interesting to listen to. Make animal sounds and give story characters different voices to keep your child entertained. Use a variety of reading materials in order to maintain your child's attention e.g. picture books, magazines, comics and hard back books.

Tips for older children

Remember to comment as well as question. Often a comment such as "I can see a bird in the tree" will elicit more language than a question such as "Can you see the bird?"

Link the story to everyday/real-life events. Talk about how what happened in the book relates to your child's life e.g. we went to the seaside, we saw a dog in the park etc.

Change the words in familiar stories. For example, add your child's or a pet's name or change the ending. See if your child notices and can correct you.

Useful links

www.ican.org.uk

www.topmarks.co.uk/Parents/ReadingTips.aspx

www.springboard.org.uk/data/files/Parents/parents-little-guide.pdf

What can we do to help your child?

After assessment, the CSH Early Years Speech and Language therapy service can offer advice and training for parents, with therapy as needed, in order to help children to develop early language skills.

For more information or enquiries, please see the contact details section of this leaflet.