

## 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](mailto:CSH.childrensclinicalnavigator@nhs.net)

For further information and resources please visit:

[www.cshsurrey.co.uk/our-services/service-children/speech-and-language-therapy](http://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](mailto: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](mailto:CSH.Communications@nhs.net) to receive this information in large print, audio format or another language.

## General enquiries

Visit [www.cshsurrey.co.uk](http://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



## Bilingualism

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.

## What is bilingualism?

Bilingualism is the ability to use more than one language.

## Will learning more than one language make my child talk later than others?

- **No.** Bilingualism does not cause language delay
- Your child should talk at the same time as children learning one language.

## Will it be difficult for my child to learn more than one language?

- **No.** 2/3 of the world's population speak more than one language
- Children can start learning more than one language from birth
- The first three years are important for learning as the brain is developing quickly.

## I speak more than one language. Which one should I use when talking with my child?

- Use your **strongest language** because children need to hear a good language model that is correct and fluent
- Don't worry if you mix languages when talking. It is natural for people who speak more than one language to do this. Your child will eventually learn that the two languages are different.

## Is it important for my child to learn English before starting nursery or school?

- **No.** It is important that your child has good social skills in their home language before they start school
- Once children know how to use one language, they can usually learn another one very quickly
- Don't worry about teaching your child English; they will learn this skill at Nursery/School.

## How can I help my child learn our home language?

- Talk and play with your child throughout the day
- Sing nursery rhymes and songs in your home language
- Look at books and talk about the pictures in your home language
- Talk about what you are doing in your home language .e.g. at meal times, when shopping and at bath times.

## Useful links

[www.ican.org.uk](http://www.ican.org.uk)

[www.talkingpoint.org.uk](http://www.talkingpoint.org.uk)

[www.thecommunicationtrust.org.uk](http://www.thecommunicationtrust.org.uk)

[www.naldic.org.uk/eal-teaching-and-learning/out-line-guidance/early-years/](http://www.naldic.org.uk/eal-teaching-and-learning/out-line-guidance/early-years/)

## 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.