

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,
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Leatherhead, Surrey, KT22 8SD

Company registered number 5700920



Using longer sentences

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 does talking develop?

Below is a rough guide of what to expect:

2 years: Using at least 50 words and starting to link words together.

2 ½ years: Using 3-4 words together in short sentences (e.g. mummy go work).

3 years: Using 4-6 word sentences and starting to use plurals and pronouns.

4 years: Using 5-8 word sentences, past and future tense and asking questions.

How to help your child to use longer sentences

Use the 'expansion' technique; when your child uses 2 or 3 words, repeat this phrase back to them adding a word or two e.g.:

- o **Child:** "me go"
(asking to go home)
Adult: "yes, we're going home"
- o **Child:** "uh-oh fall down"
(pointing to spoon fallen off table)
Adult: "uh-oh spoon's fallen down"
- o **Child:** "Mummy do it"
(asking mum to fix train)
Adult: "mummy fix the train"

Activities to help your child to use longer sentences

- Most children need to understand three words in a sentence before they use sentences of this length. Help them to do this by playing games where they must follow instructions with three key words (words where your child needs to make a choice) e.g:



"Give the **big** banana to **teddy**"

If they follow the instruction, give them praise and tell them what they did: "you gave the big banana to teddy". If they make a mistake praise them for trying, then break down the instruction until they get it right e.g. say "where's the **big** (gesture big) banana?" "good, give it to teddy". When they have succeeded, tell them what they have done.

- Take photos of your child and friends and family carrying out basic actions (e.g. Daddy eating banana, Mummy brushing her teeth). Look at the pictures together. Wait for your child to label them, then expand what they say (e.g. if they say "daddy eat" you would say "yes, Daddy's eating banana).

- Join in with your child's pretend play. Take their lead and comment on what they are doing/saying to show you are interested. This will motivate your child to interact with you and develop their imagination.
- To build longer sentences children often use concept words such as big/little and in/on/under. Help them to learn these words by using them often in everyday life e.g. pointing out big and little dogs or talking about where the toys go when putting them away e.g. "trains in the box", "puzzle **on** the table" etc.
- Play hide and seek with your child's soft toys then talk about where they were hiding. Use gesture to highlight the concept words. If your child has difficulty offer them 2 choices e.g. "was teddy **on** the table or **under** the table?"

Useful links

www.ican.org.uk

www.talkingpoint.org.uk

www.thecommunicationtrust.org.uk

What can we do to help your child?

After assessment, the CSH Surrey 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 queries, please see the contact details section of this leaflet.