About CLCH NHS Trust

The speech and language therapy service is provided by Central London Community Healthcare NHS Trust. We provide a range of NHS care in London and Hertfordshire. 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 you can contact the Trust’s Customer Services team on 0800 368 0412 or clchpals@nhs.net

Alternative formats and communications support:

If you need this information in alternative formats or need other communications support during appointments please let your clinician know and we can arrange this for you.

This information was checked in January 2017

Please contact your local clinic for more information:

**Kensington and Chelsea:**

Colville Health Centre
51 Kensington Park Road
London W11 1PA
020 7792 7733

Cheyne Child Development Service
Chelsea and Westminster Hospital, 369 Fulham Road, London
SW10 9NH
0208 102 4001

**Hammersmith and Fulham:**

Parsons Green Health Centre
5-7 Parsons Green, London SW6 4UL
0208 102 4001

Parkview Centre for Health and Wellbeing,
Cranston Court, First Floor, 56 Bloemfontein Road,
London, W12 7FG
020 8102 6003

**Westminster:**

The Medical Centre
7e Woodfield Road
London W9 3XZ
0207 563 6207

Bessborough Street Clinic
1 Bessborough Street
London SW1V 2JD
0208 102 3501
Speech and Language Therapists support children who have difficulties with eating and drinking. For example, chewing, difficulty progressing through textures or signs your child may have difficulty swallowing (e.g. coughing when drinking, recurrent chest infections)

**Referral:** When your child is referred to us, we aim to see them within 2 weeks. We will call/write to you to determine if we need to offer an appointment.

We offer appointments during standard working hours. Whilst there is some flexibility, your child may need to be taken out of nursery in order to attend.

**Initial appointment:** Your 1st appointment will be an assessment session. The speech and language therapist will gather information regarding your child’s eating and drinking development.

The assessment lasts approximately 45 minutes. At the end of the session, there will be time to discuss the findings and agree a plan.

If it is felt your child would benefit from further advice and intervention, a follow up appointment will be made.

If your child does not need support, advice may be given and your child will be discharged.

**Further appointments:**

Should your child require on-going input regarding their eating and drinking difficulties, additional appointments will be offered.

Typically, a child may be seen on a monthly or three monthly basis depending on their needs. We will set goals of what to work on and show you strategies to support your child to achieve their goal.

A report may be written and shared with key people working with your child in order to share information and help support and continue the targets in a variety of contexts.

Referrals to other specialities may be recommended and discussed, for example an a videofluoroscopy or a Paediatrician.

There are a number of speech and language therapists working within the team. You may be seen by any of these therapists.

**Expectations:**

Children’s feeding skills are best developed with the people who are most familiar to them, and in everyday situations. We can support you to do this.

To achieve this we will require you to:

- Be on time. We will be unable to see your child should you arrive more than 10 minutes late.
- Contact the clinic to let us know if you are unable to attend a session as soon as possible. It is not possible to re-schedule cancelled appointments.
- Practise therapy ideas regularly between sessions.
- Ensure that someone with parental responsibility gives consent to the assessment and treatment of your child.

We will contact you if you miss an appointment to check you still require input from our service.

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*