

Come along to a Chatterbox Group if you:

- are you worried about your child's talking or communication?
- have questions about his/her speech or language?
- would you like some advice, strategies or tips?

What are Chatterbox groups?

Chatterbox Groups are drop-in groups for Croydon families with children under the age of 5 years old who have concerns about their child's talking or interaction. They are run jointly by Speech and Language Therapy staff, Best Start Early Help Group workers and Children's Centres across the borough to promote, encourage and support speech, language and communication development.



Telephone interpreting services are widely available for families whose first language is not English.

Chatterbox tips...

- **Follow your child's lead:** Let your child choose what to play with and how to play with it - join in with them
- Play with and talk with your child on his/her level: **face to face, eye to eye**
- **Watch your child** and talk about what s/he is doing. Try not to ask lots of questions or tell him/her what to do
- **Listen to your child:**
Repeat the words your child says or tries to say (e.g. child: "tar", adult: "yes, car")
And **add new words** to what your child says (e.g. "a big red car")
- Give your child **time to interact & talk** with you: pause after you speak
- Use **easy words** and **short, simple sentences**
- Use **actions, gestures and expressions** when you talk
- Use your **first, strongest language** with your child
- Give your child **lots of praise and encouragement**

Chatterbox Groups January 2018- March 2018

(Including December 2017/January 2018 Centre closures)

Highlighted in the Croydon NHS Trust
CQC inspection report as a service that
delivers "**Outstanding Practice**"

*Drop-in groups to promote,
support and encourage your
child's speech, language and
communication development*

If you have any queries, please contact:
020 8714 2594
CH-TR.SLTcroydonchildren@nhs.net



Croydon
Children's Speech & Language Therapy
Service

Communication
changes lives

Updated December 2017

What do we do at Chatterbox?



Play opportunities to promote speech, language & communication development.

Advice, tips and strategies from Speech and Language Therapy staff,

Best Start Early Help Group workers and Children's Centre staff.

Time to **share a book** with your child: follow his/her interests, talk about the pictures as well as the words.



Snack time: the children share a healthy snack and drink; this is a great time to

model language by offering your child choices.



Group **story, song and rhyme time**



To get the most from Chatterbox groups...

Give your child your full attention - please don't use your mobile phone.

Please don't use a dummy or bottle with children over a year old.



Days and Locations

A Speech and Language Therapist is present on the first session of every month. A Speech and Language Therapy Assistant is generally present every week. Please contact the centre directly during school holidays, as timetables are subject to change by the centres during these times.

Mondays

Malling Close Children's Centre, 12:30pm-2:30pm

Lead Therapist– Jo Drake

Lead Group Worker– Anya Odartey

Tel: 020 8655 5680

Malling Close, Addiscombe, Croydon, CR0 7YD

This centre will be closed on Monday 25th December and Monday 1st January 2018.

Tuesdays

Aerodrome Children's Centre 9:30am-11:30am

Lead Therapist– Jayne Nicholls

Lead Group Worker– Kim Ludgate

Tel: 020 8688 7710

Violet Lane, Croydon CR0 4HN

This centre will be closed from midday on 22nd December 2017 and re-opens on 2nd January 2018

Winterbourne Children's Centre 1:00pm-2:30pm

Lead Therapist– Jayne Nicholls

Lead Group Worker– Sophia Dawn Reilly

Tel: 020 8689 0978

Winterbourne Road, Thornton Heath, CR7 7QT

This centre will be closed from the 22nd December 2017 and re-opens on the 3rd January 2018

Wednesdays

Good Shepherd Children's Hub 9:30am-11:15am

Lead Therapist– Laura Harle

Lead Group Worker– Sheila Clark

Tel: 01689 841771

Dunley Drive, New Addington, CR0 0RG

This centre will be closed from the 22nd December 2017. The Chatterbox session starts on the 10th January 2018

Wednesdays continued...

Shirley Children's Centre 9.30am-11.15am

Lead Therapist– Jo Drake

Lead Group Worker– Chanika Gulli

Tel: 020 8777 2119

34 Lilac Gardens, Shirley, CR0 8NR

This centre will be closed on Wednesday 27th December 2017.

Thursdays

Selhurst Children's Centre 9:30am-11:30am

Lead Therapist– Faith Brooks

Lead Group Worker– Hannah Elson

Tel: 020 8684 3777

23 Dagnall Park, South Norwood, SE25 5PL

This centre will be open on Thursday 28th December 2017

Woodlands Children's Centre 1pm-2:45pm

Lead Therapist– Faith Brooks

Lead Group Worker– Sue Walters

Tel: 020 8916 0543

Farnborough Avenue, Selsdon, CR2 8HD

This centre will be closed on Thursday 28th December 2017

Fridays

Purley Oaks Children's Centre 9:30am-11:00am

Lead Therapists– Ruth Wheeler and Faith Brooks

Lead Group Worker– Julie Cullum

Tel: 020 8325 4518

Bynes Road, South Croydon, CR2 0PR

This centre will be closed on the 29th December 2017

Kensington Avenue Children's Centre 1pm-2:30pm

Lead Therapist– Faith Brooks

Lead Group Workers– Lena Simon and Lisa Stanley

Tel: 0208765 8128, Kensington Ave, access **via Hawthorn**

Avenue, Thornton Heath, CR7 8BW

This centre will be closed from the 22nd December 2017 and re-opens on the 3rd January 2018