Speech, Language and Communication Needs

Services for Children and Young People

An information booklet for parents, carers and families living in Thurrock

NHS South West Essex

THURROCK COUNCIL
www.thurrock.gov.uk
If you are concerned that your child has a difficulty with any of the following:

- listening and attending;
- understanding what is being said;
- saying words and putting them in sentences;
- using correct sounds in words so he/she is understood;
- getting along with others;

There are people you can contact for advice and support. Depending on the age of your child, your first point of contact could be:

- your Health Visitor;
- the Speech and Language Drop In Service for children aged 0-4 years (Tel: 01375 859161);
- Speakeasy, the Speech and Language Therapy Helpline for children aged 4 years and over (Tel: 07957 934204);
- your pre-school or nursery Special Educational Needs Co-ordinator (SENCO);
- your school Inclusion Manager or SENCO.
**People you may meet**

**Health Visitor**
A health visitor is a qualified nurse or midwife with additional special training and experience in child health. They visit family homes in the early years to offer information on children’s health and development. You will automatically receive a visit following the birth of your child from a named health visitor. Your health visitor will give advice on all aspects of child development and will answer any questions you have. Your Health Visitor or Nursery Nurse may refer you to the audiologist if there are concerns with your child’s speech and language. Your health visitor can also offer information on how to contact doctors, hospitals and other services in your area.

→ **Contact:**
   Your local health centre

**Nursery Nurse**
A nursery nurse works alongside health visitors. They are trained in early child development. They will visit children at home and identify any concerns regarding a child's development. A nursery nurse can provide you with information and ideas on how to support your child's development.

→ **Contact:**
   Your local health centre

**Speech and Language Therapist**
Speech and language therapists are trained to assess, make a diagnosis and provide advice and therapy if needed, if your child has a delay or a difficulty in the development of their speech sounds, their words or sentences, their understanding of language, their fluency or their social communication skills. They will give you information and ideas to try out to develop their speech or language and may work directly with you and your child.

**Thurrock Parent Partnership Services**
Thurrock Parent Partnership Service is a statutory service offering free confidential impartial information, advice and support on education matters to parents and carers of children and young people with Special Educational Needs (SEN) and/or a disability. The Parent Partnership Service can offer support to parents and carers through our advice line or through an informal meeting.

→ **Contact:**
   Thurrock Parent Partnership Service
   ☎️ 01708 859692
   ✉️ parent.partnership@thurrock.gov.uk
   🌐 www.thurrockparents.org.uk

**Speech and Language Therapists Assistants**
Assistants have experience of working with children in pre schools or nurseries and then receive additional training from the speech and language therapy team. They work under the guidance of the speech and language therapist and follow a speech and language therapy plan to play games that develop speech sounds or language skills. They will also give you suggestions of things you should try at home.

→ **Contact:**
   Great Oaks Clinic
   ☎️ 01268 644102
Paediatrician
A Paediatrician is a doctor who specialises in working with babies and children. Paediatricians sometimes work in hospitals and sometimes for community health services.

→ Contact: Your GP

Audiologist
An audiologist carries out and explains hearing tests. If your child needs a hearing aid they will identify the best type and arrange the fitting. They also monitor your child’s hearing to make sure that any hearing aids supplied are appropriate.

An audiologist usually refers you to a doctor who works with deaf and hearing-impaired children. This doctor has a number of titles including Audiological Physician, Community Paediatrician or Ear, Nose and Throat (ENT) Surgeon.

→ Contact:
    Hearing Centre at Basildon and Thurrock Hospital
    01268 821097

Portage Home Visitor
Portage is a home visiting educational service for pre-school children with additional support needs and their families. Portage home visitors are trained to work with children who have significant developmental delays. The service is based at Treetops School.

→ Contact:
    The Portage Co-ordinator
    01375 898652
    portage@treetops.thurrock.sch.uk

Early Education Improvement Officer
The EEIOs provide support for the Early Years in schools and settings. Support includes offering advice around the provision of an inclusive enabling environment and meeting the needs of each unique child. They will signpost to appropriate agencies for specific advice. EEIOs promote and facilitate smooth transitions between settings and into school.

→ Contact:
    The Family Information Service
    01375 652801
    fis@thurrock.gov.uk

School SENCO/Inclusion Manager
Every school has a teacher with a specialist responsibility for co-ordinating the provision for children with special educational needs. This teacher works alongside class teachers to ensure all children’s needs are identified and met. In your child’s school, this teacher may be called a SENCO (special educational needs co-ordinator) or an Inclusion Manager. If you have any concerns about your child’s progress in any area, including speech, language and communication needs, you may ask to see the SENCO/Inclusion Manager in your school.

→ Contact: Your GP
Advisory Teacher (also known as Speech and Language Consultant)

Advisory Teachers are employed by the Local Authority to provide support for children in schools who may have a range of additional needs. If parents and/or teachers feel that a child may have speech and language difficulties, the SENCO can refer the child to the Speech and Language Consultant. The Consultant will carry out observations, speech and language assessments, monitor progress and offer advice to schools and parents. The teacher will also liaise with other professionals and provide a full range of services to support the Local Authority’s statutory assessment process, including providing advice and support, attending planning meetings and annual reviews and overseeing transitions for children identified with speech, language and communication needs in their statement.

→ Contact:
  Treetops School
  01375 372723

Educational Psychologist (EP)

An EP has training in psychology, experience of working with children and young people and post graduate training in educational psychology. EPs help children and young people who may have difficulties with their learning, behaviour, communication, social and emotional development. EPs work with educational settings, parents and other professionals to help them understand and support children and young people. EPs also meet with children and young people to gain a better understanding of their needs and views.

→ Contact:
  Educational Psychology Service
  01375 652558

Social Worker (Team for Disabled Children)

Social workers provide information and support to children and young people (birth to 18 years) with disabilities and their families and carers who live within the Thurrock area. A social worker will meet with the child and important people in their lives, including other professionals, to assess their needs and look to provide services to meet those needs. The social worker works with children and young people who have a substantial difficulty, either permanent or temporary, in achieving their full potential.

→ Contact:
  Team for Disabled Children
  01375 652633
Support and provision
available to all children and young people in Thurrock

Bookstart Baby Rhyme Time

Weekly rhyme times run in 9 libraries across the borough for all parents/carers and their babies and toddlers. This is a chance to share favourite nursery and finger rhymes and learn new ones to share. Very young babies love to listen and as they grow they begin to join in and learn the sounds and actions. These sessions are free and open to all. Learning rhymes is great fun and helps to develop early language communication and learning skills.

→ Contact:
The Bookstart Co-ordinator
☎ 01375 413976
✉ grays.library@thurrock.gov.uk

Children’s Centres

Children’s centres offer a wide variety of services and opportunities for parents, families and children, aged 0-5 years. Services include: early education and childcare; child and family health provision; family support, including support for parents with special needs; and parental outreach. You can just walk into your local children’s centre to ask about the services they offer or talk to someone about your concerns. They will signpost you to the most appropriate service. The centres have close links with the speech and language therapy team. Each centre also has an information board on speech and language development.

→ Contact:
Family Information Service
☎ 01375 652801
✉ fis@thurrock.gov.uk

Speech and Language Drop-in Service for Preschool Children

Do you have concerns about your child’s speech and language development? Then come along to a Speech and Language Drop-in to speak to a Speech and Language Therapist. The Speech and Language Drop-in is an informal advice service for parents of preschool children. It runs across Children’s Centres in the South West Essex NHS area, including Thurrock. During the session a parent is asked for some information about their child’s early development, the Speech and Language Therapist observes the child playing and then discusses observations with the parent and decides together what should happen next.

→ Contact:
Speech and Language Therapy
☎ 01375 859161
Early Years and Childcare Settings

All nurseries (including school nurseries), pre-schools, playgroups and childminders offer inclusive early education opportunities for all children. All children are individual and every setting has a responsibility to meet a child’s individual needs and ensure each child enjoys and benefits from the activities on offer. All settings have a SENCO who you can talk to if you have concerns about your child’s development. The setting may discuss an individual education plan (IEP) for your child with you. This will set out activities that will help your child develop specific skills, including language and communication skills.

Contact:
The Family Information Service
☎ 01375 652801
✉ fis@thurrock.gov.uk

Schools

Most children’s individual needs will be met in their local mainstream school. All schools provide support for children who are experiencing difficulties with their learning, this will include support to develop their speech, language and communication skills. The nature and level of this help will depend on the needs of each individual child. All schools have a SENCO, or Inclusion Manager, whose role it is to co-ordinate the support and consult with other professionals to ensure the right support is provided. The school will discuss an individual education plan (IEP) for your child with you. This will set out the skills your child needs to develop, and the support and strategies to develop these skills.

The SENCO may talk to you about referring to other agencies (e.g. advisory teacher, speech and language therapist or educational psychologist). The SENCO may also talk to you about completing a CAF (Common Assessment Framework) to see if there are other factors affecting your child’s progress.

If your child’s difficulties are ongoing and complex and the school feel they require additional support to meet your child’s needs, they may discuss making a request to the Local Authority to undertake a statutory assessment of your child’s special educational needs.

Contact:
Your child’s school
Speech and Language Therapy

If your child has a significant delay in their speech or language development you might be seen at your local community clinic. Your child might be seen by a therapist or an assistant for a block of therapy, for 6 to 8 weeks. You will be involved in the sessions and will be shown ways to help develop their speech sounds or their language. Your child will then be given some time to practice and use their new skills and seen again after a few months to see if further therapy is needed.

Your child might be seen as part of a group of other similar children. You might just be given things to try at home, with similar suggestions given to nursery or school.

➔ Contact:
📞 01268 644102
Anyone can refer a child – you don’t need to go to your GP or health visitor.

Chatterbox Group
(Invite through Speech and Language Drop-in)

Children who attend the Speech And Language Drop-in may be invited to attend Chatterbox. Chatterbox is a weekly language group for parents and pre-school children based in Children’s Centres and run by Children’s Centre staff who have been trained by Speech and Language Therapy.

The sessions include:

- Free play - Parents and children play together with activities and toys. Parents can also talk to the group leaders about their child’s language.
- Snack Time - Children are encouraged to sit and have a snack with activities to develop language.
- Group Time - Parents and children sit in a circle for group language activities.

➔ Contact:
📞 Speech and Language Therapy
📞 01375 859161

Corringham Development Playgroup

The development playgroup is a group of no more than 6 children run by 2 trained Nursery Nurses. It is funded by South West Essex community services. Children are referred by their Paediatrician, Health Visitor, Specialist Health Visitor or other professional between the ages of 2 and 4 years. Children have been assessed as having delay in more than one area of development such as self help skills, social interaction skills, communication skills and motor skills.

➔ Contact:
📞 Specialist Health Visitor
📞 01375 674436
Portage

Portage is a home-visiting educational service for pre-school children with additional support needs and their families. The service is for children under the age of 5 years who are not in full-time educational provision. The child will have significant delay in two or more areas of development. Portage provides an early intervention service. A trained home visitor visits the family at home, enabling the child to work in a relaxed atmosphere in familiar surroundings.

Contact:
The Portage Co-ordinator
01375 898652
portage@treetops.thurrock.sch.uk

I CAN Nursery

I CAN at Thurrock opened in January 2003 to provide inclusive speech and language therapy to pre-school children with speech and language difficulties.

The centre is one of a national network, developed by I CAN, the charity that helps children with a communication disability across the UK, in partnership with Thurrock Council and Basildon PCT.

The centre is based within the mainstream nursery at Chafford Hundred Primary School. The nursery consists of 26 mainstream children and up to an additional 10 I CAN children in the morning and 26 mainstream children and up to an additional five I CAN children in the afternoon.

Children are referred to the centre by their community speech and language therapist because they are experiencing some difficulties with either:

- understanding what is being said to him/her;
- saying words and putting them into sentences;
- using correct sounds in words so he/she is understood.

Children are placed within the mainstream nursery and are supported by 3 additional specialist staff (speech and language therapist, teacher and learning support assistant). This allows them to develop their language skills at the same time as they enjoy and benefit from a mainstream nursery environment.

The centre also supports children, parents and staff in other early years settings in Thurrock by offering training courses and opportunities to observe practice & borrow resources.

Contact:
Chafford Hundred Primary School
01375 484490
Specialist provision and support

Specialist Speech and Language Therapy

If your child has a social communication difficulty as part of an autistic spectrum disorder, a complex special need, such as a learning disability or physical disability, hearing impairment, specific language disorder or stammer you will meet a therapist or assistant from one of our specialist teams. They have specialist training and additional skills so they can support you and your child to maximise their communication skills using all appropriate available techniques – signing, computers, picture communication and talking.

→ Contact: 01268 644102

Corringham Primary Resource Base for Pupils with Specific Language Impairment*

The specialist provision, based in Corringham Primary School, caters for 20 primary aged pupils from all over the Thurrock area. There are two resource bases covering Key Stage 1 (10 pupils) and Key Stage 2 (10 pupils).

Pupils in the resource base will have a statement of special educational needs identifying a specific language impairment or speech disorder as assessed by the speech and language therapy service and an Educational Psychologist. These children also need to be able to benefit from contact with a mainstream class. The resource bases are attached to the mainstream primary school and the base children are involved in mainstream lessons and activities – typically Maths, P.E, Games and Music. Children also attend assembly and have lunch and playtimes with the mainstream school. Inclusion increases as the children’s skills progress.

The children have regular speech and language therapy and the therapy team works closely with the base teachers. A specialist senior educational psychologist and specialist advisory teacher also provide support to the resource base.

→ Contact: Corringham Primary School 01375 672157

All children will have a statement of special educational needs to access the specialist educational provision marked with a *
Chafford Hundred Secondary Speech, Language and Communication Needs Resource Base*

This specialist provision, based in Chafford Hundred Campus School, caters for secondary aged pupils from all over the Thurrock area. There are 20 places available in Key Stages 3 and 4, and 8 places in Key Stage 5 (Sixth Form).

All pupils will have a statement of special educational needs identifying a specific language impairment, speech disorder or a social communication disorder. Pupils have access to a mainstream secondary curriculum through inclusion in mainstream lessons.

They will also have a programme of speech and language skills development drawn up in consultation with a speech and language therapist and access to small group teaching following individual or small group programmes, dependent on individual needs. At secondary level there is a particular focus on pupil’s personal, social, communication and independence skills in preparation for further education and employment.

A specialist senior educational psychologist and specialist advisory teacher also provide support to the resource base.

Contact:
Chafford Hundred Business and Enterprise College
01375 484580

St Clere’s Secondary Resource Base for Hearing Impaired Students*

The specialist provision, based at St Clere’s school, supports secondary aged deaf and hearing impaired students in Thurrock who have a statement for special educational needs. The students are supported by two qualified teachers of the deaf, communication support workers, deaf instructors and specialist learning support assistants.

The role of the resource base is to support the deaf and hearing impaired students educationally, socially and emotionally to ensure they are fully included in school life alongside their hearing peers. Students are encouraged to become confident, independent members of the school community. Some students communicate through British Sign Language whilst others use oral communication. Most students wear hearing aids and have additional FM radio aid equipment to help them access spoken information in lessons.

Contact:
St Clere’s School
01375 641001
Warren Primary Resource Base for Hearing Impaired Children*

Warren Primary School is the designated school for primary aged deaf and hearing impaired children who live in Thurrock. The children who are included in the resource base have a severe to profound hearing loss.

At Warren we offer a child-centred approach to communication, recognising and using their linguistic strengths. We are supported by specialist staff including a speech and language therapist.

Contact:
Warren Primary School 01375 482288

Beacon Hill School*

Beacon Hill is a special school for pupils/students aged 3-19 years, who have severe, or profound and complex needs, or physical and neurological impairments. Beacon Hill is a specialist college for sensory and physical needs with expertise in movement education, alternative and augmentative communication and information and communication technology. The school also has special expertise in education for children with sensory impairments. The school has a full-time speech and language therapist and access to the full range of health professionals.

Contact:
Beacon Hill School 01708 852006

Treetops School*

Treetops is a special school for pupils aged 3-19 years. All pupils at the school have learning difficulties ranging from moderate to more complex and follow the National Curriculum at a pace and level appropriate to their needs. A significant number of pupils are on the autistic continuum and many have associated speech, language and communication needs. The school has specialist status for communication and interaction. They operate a special ABA/VB (Applied Behaviour Analysis/Verbal Behaviour) specialist unit for those pupils on the autistic continuum who need an intense learning environment. This unit caters for children from nursery age through to the post 16 The school has a full-time speech and language therapist and access to a range of other therapeutic support.

Contact:
Treetops School 01375 372723
AFASIC

AFASIC is the UK charity representing children and young adults with communication impairments, working for their inclusion in society and supporting their parents and carers. Afasic has a club in Redbridge for young people aged 11 to 19 years with speech and language impairments, their siblings and friends. The social club meets at Downshall Centre in Seven Kings every Friday evening in term time from 7 - 9.30 pm.

→ Contact:
Thurrock contact:
Sue Pudney
01375 670547
Social club:
Clare Davies-Jones
0208 317 1644
info@afasic.org.uk
www.afasic.org.uk

Dyspraxia Foundation (Essex)

The Essex group offers a monthly newsletter, a telephone helpline, a monthly parents’ group meeting and family social activities. A list of forthcoming activities is available on the website (Essex). Suggestions for activities (or fund raising ideas) from all members of the group are welcome.

→ Contact:
Co-ordinator: Michaela Munden
michaelamunden@googlemail.com
www.dyspraxiafoundation.org.uk

Family Information Service

FIS provides free, impartial information and advice on:

- childcare options;
- working family guidance;
- family support;
- working in childcare.

→ Contact:
Thurrock Family Information Service, Children, Education and Families, Civic Offices, New Road, Grays, Essex RM17 6GF
01375 652801
fis@thurrock.gov.uk
www.askthurrock.org.uk

Early Support

This service is for children with complex needs. Referrals are usually made by healthcare professionals. The referral panel meet on a monthly basis.

→ Contact:
Co-ordinator: Zoë Daniels
01375 898652
zdaniels@treetops.thurrock.sch.uk

Out & About

Out & About enables disabled children and young people to have fun and enjoy their choice of universal leisure activities – the ordinary everyday activities that all children want to enjoy. Out & About is based in Suffolk, but operates local team in Thurrock. A referral form is available on their website.

→ Contact:
0845 241 2576
info@oaa.co.uk
www.oaa.co.uk

www.thurrock.gov.uk
Parent School Partnership Service

Provides information, advice and direct, impartial, confidential support to parents/carers of children who have, or may have, special educational needs. Independent Parental Supporters (IPS) available.

→ **Contact:**
  Culver Centre,  
  Daiglen Drive,  
  South Ockendon,  
  Essex RM15 5AY

✉ parent.partnership@thurrock.gov.uk
دليل www.thurrockparents.org.uk

**SNAP (Special Needs and Parents)**

SNAP is a support group for parents and carers of children with special needs or a disability.

Open 9am – 3pm weekdays during term time.

→ **Contact:**
  The SNAP Centre,  
  Pastoral Way, Warley,  
  Brentwood, Essex CM14 5WF

📞 01277 211300
✉ info@snapcharity.org

Speakeasy – Speech and Language helpline

A phone line answered by a speech and language therapist to answer questions, give advice and discuss referrals – available for parents, SENCOs, teachers, educational colleagues and medical colleagues. Available every Monday afternoon from 1pm – 4pm

→ **Contact:**
  📞 07957 934204

The Sunshine Centre

The Sunshine Centre hosts a range of services for disabled children and their parents designed to provide practical hands-on support to local families. The services include family drop-ins, specialist support groups and a toddler group.

→ **Contact:**
  The Sunshine Centre,  
  1 Civic Square, Tilbury,  
  Essex RM18 8AD

📞 01375 413525
National organisations

ACE (South)
Information on assisted and augmented communication and communication aids.

→ Contact:  
Wayneflete Road,  
Oxford OX3 8DD

☎ 01865 763508
✉ www.ace-centre.org.uk

Afasic
Parent led UK organisation that provides Information, advice and support to parents/carers and children and young people who have speech, language and communication impairments.

→ Contact:  
2nd Floor,  
50-52 Great Sutton Street,  
London EC1V 0DJ

☎ Helpline: 08453 55 5577
☎ 020 7490 9410
☎ 020 7251 2834
✉ info@afasic.org.uk
✉ www.afasic.org.uk

Association of speech and language therapists in independent practice (ASLTIP)
ASLTIP provides information and a contact point for members of the public searching for a private Speech and Language Therapist (SLT). All ASLTIP therapists are registered with the Royal College of Speech and Language Therapists and the Health Professions Council and are committed to good business standards.

→ Contact:  
www.helpwithtalking.com

The Better World Campaign (BT)
The aim of this campaign is to help the children most in need, develop communication skills and give young people a voice. The website provides a full range of free resources for children and young people.

→ Contact:  
www.btbetterworld.com

British Stammering Association (BSA)
For information, support and a listening ear, speak to someone on the confidential, local rate helpline.

→ Contact:  
15 Old Ford Road,  
London E2 9PJ

☎ Helpline: 0845 603 2001  
☎ 020 8983 1003  
☎ 020 8983 3591
✉ www.stammering.org

Chatback
Free electronic mail service for young people with speech, hearing or learning difficulties.

→ Contact:  
The Chatback Trust,  
6 St Mary’s Crescent,  
Royal Leamington Spa,  
Warwickshire CV31 1JL

☎ 01926 888333  
☎ 01926 771707
✉ tom.Holloway@u3a.org.uk
✉ www.atschool.eduweb.co.uk/chatback/
Cleft Lip and Palate Association (CLAPA)
The website answers some of the most commonly asked questions about cleft lip and palate and provides information on the services and advice offered by CLAPA.

→ Contact:
1st Floor, Green Man Tower, 332 Goswell Road, EC1V 7LQ
☎ 20 7833 4883
☎ 020 7833 5999
✉ www.clapa.com

Early Support
Early Support is a Government programme that aims to improve the delivery of services to disabled children under three and their families. Early Support has produced a series of booklets that provide detailed information for parents/carers on a range of disabilities and developmental difficulties.

→ Contact:
www.earlysupport.org.uk

The Dyspraxia Foundation
A network of local groups offering support and activities, specifically for children with Dyspraxia. A resource centre is available for more information, treatments and diagnosis.

→ Contact:
8 West Alley, Hitchin, Hertfordshire SG5 1EG
☎ Helpline: 01462 454986
☎ 01462 455016
☎ 01462 455052
✉ dyspraxia@dyspraxiafoundation.org.uk
✉ www.dyspraxiafoundation.org.uk

ICAN
ICAN is the charity that helps children with speech and language difficulties. ICAN provides a unique combination of specialist therapy, teaching and care for children, information for families, and training for teachers and other professionals.

→ Contact:
4 Dyers Buildings, Holborn, London EC1N 2QP
☎ 0845 225 4071
☎ 0845 225 4072
✉ info@ican.org.uk
✉ www.ican.org.uk
✉ www.ican.org.uk/TalkingPoint
The National Autistic Society

The National Autistic Society (NAS) is the UK’s leading charity for people affected by autism. Founded in 1962, by a group of parents who were passionate about ensuring a better future for their children, the charity provides a wide range of services, advice and support.

Contact:
393 City Road,
London EC1V 1NG
0207 833 2299
0207 833 9666
info@nas.org.uk
www.nas.org.uk

Signalong

Signalong is a manual communication system that supports spoken language.

Signalong is a signing system which offers children and those around them a valuable communication aid.

Contact:
The Signalong Group,
Stratford House,
Waterside Court,
Neptune Close, Rochester,
Kent ME4 4NZ
0870 774 3752
www.signalong.org.uk

Talking Point

Extensive information is available online for parents/carers and professionals about speech and language development and speech and language difficulties.

Contact:
www.talkingpoint.org.uk
www.talkingpoint.org.uk/earlytalk
Aladdin’s Cave:
Beacon Hill School
Specialist Sensory Library
and Resource Base

As a parent, guardian, carer, relative
or someone who works with people
with special needs you are eligible to
join and borrow resources.

Aladdin’s Cave has sound beams,
bubble tubes, projection equipment,
portable ball pools, musical
instruments, fibre optics, switch
accessible toys, sensory kits, story
sacks and much, much more.

To see our online catalogue and
opening times visit our website:
www.beaconhill.thurrock.sch.uk

Baby Talk
Sally Ward
Arrow Books Ltd
ISBN 13: 9780099297208

Communication
Cookbook
You can download a version of the
Communication Cookbook or order a
free published copy from I CAN.
www.ican.org.uk/resources

Early Support
information, materials
and resources
Available online from:
www.dcsf.gov.uk/everychild
matters/healthandwellbeing/
ahdc/earlysupport/resources

Help Me Speak – a
parent’s guide to speech
and language therapy
Jenny Barrett
Souvenir Press, 1994

ICAN
A range of books, resources and
DVDs can be ordered online
www.ican.org.uk/resources

Learning to Talk
James Law
Dorling Kindersley, 2004
ISBN 0751 338885

Let’s Talk – learning
language in everyday
settings (2nd ed)
Roy McConkey and Penny Price
Souvenir Press, 1998
ISBN 038565023x

Let’s Talk with the
Under 5’s Handouts
The handouts are ideal for parents,
child minders and under 5s
practitioners wanting some basic
skills and knowledge.
Order through Elklan
www.elklan.co.uk

Let’s Talk with 5-9s
Handouts
The handouts are ideal for parents,
child minders and those working
with 5-9s wanting some basic
skills and knowledge.
Order through Elklan
www.elklan.co.uk

Listen to your child –
a parent’s guide to
children’s language
David Crystal
Penguin, 1986
ISBN 0140110151
Training available for parents and carers

**British Sign Language**
The Signature website provides information on qualifications and training centres offering training in:
- Deaf Awareness
- British/Irish Sign Language
- Communicating Through English
- Deafblind Communication

> **Contact:**
  - [www.signature.org.uk](http://www.signature.org.uk)
  - [www.cacdp.org.uk/portal/centre_finder/show_map](http://www.cacdp.org.uk/portal/centre_finder/show_map)

**Chatterbox**
Chatterbox is a weekly language group for parents and pre-school children based in Children's Centres and run by Children's Centre staff who have been trained by Speech and Language Therapy. Chatterbox is by invitation only.

> **Contact:**
  - Speech and Language Therapy
  - 01375 859 161

**Portage Workshop**
The Portage service run an annual 4 day workshop. It is suitable for parents, carers and staff working with young children who have developmental needs, including speech, language and communication.

> **Contact:**
  - The Portage Co-ordinator
  - 01375 898652
  - [portage@treetops.thurrock.sch.uk](mailto:portage@treetops.thurrock.sch.uk)

**Signalong**
Signalong is a manual communication system that supports spoken language. Thurrock offer Signalong courses for parents, carers, nurseries pre-schools and schools, as a signing system which offers children and those around a valuable aid to communication.

> **Contact:**
  - The Signalong administrator
  - 01375 898652
For more information, please contact:

Family Information Service
Thurrock Council
Civic Offices, New Road,
Grays, Thurrock,
Essex RM17 6SL

Telephone: 01375 652801
Email: fis@thurrock.gov.uk
Visit: www.askthurrock.org.uk

www.thurrock.gov.uk