

What are Chatterbox groups?

Chatterbox Groups are groups for Croydon families with children aged 4 years old and under who have concerns about their child's talking or interaction. They are run by the Chatterbox team which includes Speech and Language Therapists and Assistants, Best Start Early Help Group workers and Children's Centres staff across the borough. The groups are designed to promote, encourage and support speech, language and communication development in pre-school aged children.

What happens at a Chatterbox group session?

Chatterbox groups have an emphasis on parents/carers playing and actively engaging with their child using strategies that are proven to enhance speech and language development. These interactions are supported by the Chatterbox team. At the Chatterbox session, there will be:

- **Play opportunities** for parents/carers and children to promote speech, language & communication development.
- **Advice, tips and strategies** from the Chatterbox team regarding how to support their child's speech, language and communication skills.
- A **snack time** when the children share a healthy snack and drink. This is a great time to model language by offering children choices and parents/carer's are actively encouraged to get involved!
- Time to **share a book** between parents/carers and their child: follow the child's interests, talk about the pictures as well as the words.
- A **structured time** for a whole group story, song time and activities to help to develop the children's attention and listening skills

To get the most from Chatterbox groups parents/carers should:

- *Arrive at the start of the session as advertised on the flyer*
- *Give your child your full attention*
- *Not use your mobile phone at all during the session*
- *Make the most of the time available to play and engage with your child!*

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



Chatterbox Groups September—December Autumn term 2018

Highlighted in the Croydon NHS Trust CQC inspection report
as a service that delivers "**Outstanding Practice**"
- June 2015

Targeted 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

Or

Beststartearlyhelp1@croydon.gov.uk



Croydon

Children's Speech & Language Therapy

Service

Communication
changes lives

Updated August 2018

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.

Please arrive as close to the start of the session as possible, otherwise your child will miss out on the valuable play opportunities and overall structure of the session

Mondays

Malling Close Children's Centre, 1:00pm-2:30pm

Lead Therapist– Faith Brooks

Tel: 020 8655 5680

Malling Close, Addiscombe, Croydon, CR0 7YD

This centre will be closed on 3rd September, 24th December, 31st December and also 7th January 2019

Tuesdays

Aerodrome Children's Centre 9:30am-11:00am

Lead Therapist– Faith Brooks

Tel: 020 8688 7710

Violet Lane, Croydon CR0 4HN

This centre will be closed on the 4th September, 25th December 2018 and 1st January 2019

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

Lead Therapist– Faith Brooks

Tel: 020 8689 0978

Winterbourne Road, Thornton Heath, CR7 7QT

This centre will be closed from Friday 21st December 2018 and re—opens on Monday 7th January 2019.

Wednesdays

Good Shepherd Children's Hub 9:30am-11:00am

Lead Therapist– Laura Harle

Tel: 01689 841771

Dunley Drive, New Addington, CR0 0RG

Please be aware that the Good Shepherd Children's Hub is always closed during school holidays. The first Chatterbox session in the Autumn term—will be 12th September 2018.

Wednesdays continued...

Shirley Children's Centre 9.30am-11.00am

Lead Therapist– Saru Sathianandan

Tel: 020 8777 2119

34 Lilac Gardens, Shirley, CR0 8NR

This centre will be closed on 3rd September, 4th September, and the 27th December until the 31st December 2018 inclusive.

Thursdays

Selhurst Children's Centre 9:30am-11:00am

Lead Therapist– Faith Brooks

Tel: 020 8684 3777

23 Dagnall Park, South Norwood, SE25 5PL

This centre will be closed on Thursday 27th December 2018

Woodlands Children's Centre 1pm-2:30pm

Lead Therapist– Ann Harvey-Lewis

Tel: 020 8916 0543

Farnborough Avenue, Selsdon, CR2 8HD

This centre will be closed on 27th December 2018

Fridays

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

Lead Therapist– Ruth Wheeler

Tel: 020 8325 4518

Bynes Road, South Croydon, CR2 0PR

This centre will be closed on 7th September 2018, 12th October 2018, 28th December and 4th January 2019 .

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

Lead Therapist– Faith Brooks

Tel:020 8765 8128,

Kensington Ave, access **via Hawthorn Avenue**, Thornton Heath, CR7 8BW

This centre will be closed from Friday 21st December 2018 and re—opens on Monday 7th January 2019.