

Are you worried about your child's talking or communication?

Do you have questions about his/her speech or language?

Would you like some advice, strategies or tips?

Come along to a Chatterbox Group...

Chatterbox Groups are drop-in groups for Croydon families with children aged 0-6 years who have concerns about their child's talking or interaction. They are run jointly by Children's Centre and Speech and Language Therapy Staff across the borough to promote, encourage and support speech, language and communication development.

Faith Brooks (Speech & Language Therapist, Early Intervention Lead),

Anna Peiris (Speech & Language Therapy Assistant)



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 September — December 2016

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

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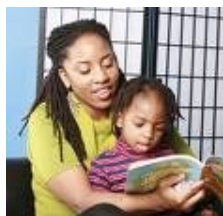
What do we do at Chatterbox?



Play opportunities to promote speech, language & communication development.

Advice, tips and strategies from the Speech & Language Therapy team and Childrens Centre (CC) 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 the school holidays, as timetables are subject to change by the centres during school holidays.

Mondays 12:45-2:45pm
at **Crosfield Children's Centre**
Tel: 020 8654 7566
Elborough Road, South Norwood, SE25 5BD

Tuesdays 09:30am-11:30am
at **Aerodrome Children's Centre**
Tel: 020 8688 7710
Violet Lane, Croydon CR0 4HN

Tuesdays 1:30-3pm
at **Winterbourne Children's Centre**
Tel: 020 8689 0978
Winterbourne Road, Thornton Heath, CR7 7QT

Thursdays 9:30-11:30am
at **Selhurst Children's Centre**
Tel: 020 8684 3777
23 Dagnall Park, South Norwood, SE25 5PL

Thursdays 9.30-11.15am
at **Shirley Children's Centre**
Tel: 020 8777 2119
On the 1st and 3rd Thursday of the month
34 Lilac Gardens, Shirley, CR0 8NR

Thursdays 1-3pm
at **Woodlands Children's Centre**
Tel: 020 8916 0543
Farnborough Avenue, Selsdon, CR2 8HD

Fridays 9:30-11:00am
at **Purley Oaks Children's Centre**
Tel: 020 8325 4518
Bynes Road, South Croydon, CR2 0PR

Fridays 1-2:30pm
at **Kensington Avenue Children's Centre**
Tel: 0208765 8128, Kensington Ave, access via **Hawthorn Avenue**, Thornton Heath, CR7 8BW ;

NEW SESSION!!

We are pleased to introduce a new Chatterbox session in the New Addington area that starts on Wednesday 14th September 2016!

Wednesdays 9:30-11:30am

At **Good Shepherd Children's Hub** Tel: 01689 841771

Dunley Drive, New Addington, CR0 0RG

In other news.....

Sadly, the Chatterbox group at Salvation Army centre in New Addington, is now closed. Please feel free to access a Chatterbox session at another centre.