

## Missed and cancelled appointments

If you are unable to attend an appointment for your child, contact the SLT as soon as possible in order that it can be rearranged.

If you do not bring your child to a clinic appointment, you will be sent a letter asking you to contact the SLT within 3 weeks. If you do not contact the SLT within this time, your child's case will be closed.

If a child's case is closed, they can only be re-referred after 3 months has passed and will go back on to the waiting list.

## What to do if I need more information

For more information about the service, useful websites and frequently asked questions:

[www.cornwallfoundationtrust.nhs.uk/cft/ourServices/ChildrenandyoungPeople/SpeechandLanguageTherapy.asp](http://www.cornwallfoundationtrust.nhs.uk/cft/ourServices/ChildrenandyoungPeople/SpeechandLanguageTherapy.asp)

If you would like to comment or give feedback about the Speech and

Language Service, please visit our website or follow the link

[www.oc-meridian.com/CFT/survey/SALT](http://www.oc-meridian.com/CFT/survey/SALT)

## Speech and Language Therapy helpline

**Telephone: 01208 834488**

Parents or the Child's Educational Setting can contact the SLT service with questions or to request further information, using the SLT helpline. Please note, the helpline is a call back service and a qualified SLT will return your call.

## Comments and concerns

We welcome your views, feedback and suggestions about how we can improve our service. The PALS office takes calls Monday to Friday, between 9.30am and 4.30pm.

**Telephone: 01208 834620**

**Email: [cpn-tr.palscft@nhs.net](mailto:cpn-tr.palscft@nhs.net)**



To get this information in another format email: [cpn-tr.communications@nhs.net](mailto:cpn-tr.communications@nhs.net)

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**Cornwall Partnership**  
NHS Foundation Trust

# Paediatric Speech and Language Therapy

## What to expect



Find us online at [cornwallft](http://cornwallft)

CHA4041

CH-003-1



## Your child's first appointment

- First appointments usually take between 45 and 60 minutes
- The Speech and Language Therapist (SLT) will ask some questions about your child's development, health and communications skills
- The SLT will provide some toys or games / books for your child to play with whilst they talk with you
- Assessment of children is carried out through play, watching your child and / or looking at pictures
- It is **vital** that you attend, even if it is at school. If you do not attend this appointment, your child will not be seen for assessment and you will be contacted (see missed appointments detailed below).

At the end of the first appointment the SLT will discuss with you whether they need to see your child again. This will depend on:

- Whether further assessment is needed
- Your child's strengths and areas needing support

- Whether your child is ready for speech and language therapy
- Whether there is an adult to carry out the advice.

For some children one or two sessions of advice and recommendations are all that is needed. Some children may also need to be referred to another service.

After initial assessment is completed, a written report / care plan will be sent to you and other people working with your child as agreed during the sessions. This will tell you what your child will be working on if they need speech and language therapy.

## What Speech and Language therapy involves

SLTs help to develop your skills and those of other people who support your child in their everyday life. This is the best way to help your child to make progress.

Sometimes, as part of a child's therapy we will offer training to you and other people working with your child. Some preschools and schools may already have attended training that will benefit your child.

Therapy is not provided on a weekly basis with SLTs because in order to achieve the most progress, support needs to happen in a child's daily life such as at school and at home.

## Children with continuing speech and language needs

The SLT will work with your child at key points when support is most beneficial.

If your child needs continued speech and language therapy you will receive written copies of any changes to targets and advice. The care plan/ targets are updated on a regular basis, usually half-termly or termly, depending on the needs of your child.

If your child still has communication needs but these are being well supported within their environment, the SLT will provide advice and activities to be used over a longer period of time. Your child's current episode of care will then be closed. The SLT will give you written information about when you need to contact the service for further assessment.