

*Regional Cleft Lip and Palate Service
Specialist Speech and Language Therapy*

Infant Babble Therapy

Information for parents and carers



Leeds children's
hospital

caring about children

During your child's first year, you will be asked to bring your child for a babble therapy session. This may be individual, or as part of a small group of two or three families. These sessions are run by the Specialist Speech and Language Therapists (SLTs) in the Regional Cleft Lip and Palate Service, and will form an important part of your child's care.

Our first meeting at the Cleft Lip and Palate Clinic is often quite brief, and we do not have time to talk to you in detail about speech and language development, so this will be our first opportunity to meet you and your baby properly.

The purpose of the session is to share with you:

- Information about early interaction and why it is important for your baby's speech, language and communication development.
- Information about how the palate works and why it is important for your baby's speech development.
- Practical ideas for activities and games you can play with your baby to encourage good communication, language and speech skills.
- Information about specific sounds to model to your child at this stage, with ideas for activities, songs and resources that you can use at home.

You will have the opportunity to talk about any concerns or questions you may have about your child's talking or how it may develop.

As parents, you can make a big difference to your child's speech and language development. Research also shows that, for children born with a cleft palate, the earlier parents receive support from Specialist SLTs, the better the outcomes for their speech and language development.

The first session will be before or after your child's palate surgery and further sessions may be arranged afterwards, as needed.

We will contact you by phone nearer the time to arrange your first session, but if you have any questions or concerns in the meantime, please get in touch at the address below:

Specialist Speech and Language Therapy Service

Regional Cleft Lip and Palate Service

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Developed by: The Speech and Language Therapists at the Northern and Yorkshire Regional Cleft Lip and Palate Service (Leeds Site), Leeds General Infirmary.
Produced by: Medical Illustration Services • MID code: 20190726_009/BP

LN004625
Publication date
01/2020
Review date
01/2023