



Free event

Early years language and development in deaf children - what the research shows

This event is available on three dates in different locations:

Tuesday 12 September 2017

13:00 - 17:00

**Exeter Community Centre,
17 St David's Hill,
Exeter,
EX4 3RG**

Monday 16 October 2017

13:00 - 17:00

**National Deaf
Children's Society,
37-45 Paul Street,
London EC2A 4LS**

Monday 13 November 2017

13:00 - 17:00

**St Thomas Centre,
Ardwick Green North,
Manchester
M12 6FZ**

Who is this event for?

This half-day discussion event is aimed mainly at Teachers of the Deaf, but may be of interest to anyone looking to find out more about what the evidence shows about supporting language and communication in the early years.

Why should I attend?

We will be sharing the main findings from a literature review by the National Deaf Children's Society of research on key factors affecting deaf children's language and communication in the early years.

While early access to digital hearing aids and cochlear implants has led to improving outcomes for deaf children, there is still significant variability in individual outcomes. This variability is seen not only in deaf children's language and communication, but also across a wider spectrum of cognitive and psychosocial skills.

Research shows that it is within the family that environmental factors have the greatest impact in the early years. This review therefore focuses on what happens, or what can be done, within the family, particularly in the context of day-to-day parent-child interaction.

The workshop will explore the evidence relating to three main areas in which environmental factors play a particularly important part in supporting and shaping deaf children's early communication, language and broader cognitive and psychosocial development:

- Factors affecting early speech perception
- Factors affecting early attention to speech and language
- The quality and quantity of parents / carers' language input

In each of these areas, the workshop will highlight what the best evidence says about what parents and carers can do and on how they can be supported to improve language, communication and associated development in their deaf children during infancy and the preschool years,

Who is leading the workshop?

Dr Sarah Collinson, National Deaf Children's Society's Regional Director for the South West, who has nearly thirty years' experience of research and policy analysis, and has particular expertise in conducting broad scoping reviews of this kind.

Is it really free?

Yes. This event is free to attend but you must book in advance to confirm your place. Tea and coffee will be provided, but delegates will need to bring their own lunch. Places are limited, so early booking is recommended to avoid disappointment.

More information and a booking form can be found on the NatSIP website at <https://www.natsip.org.uk>