

68th Barnet CHSWG Meeting
Children's Services Working Group
Thursday 23rd May 2024

Time	16:00pm-17:00pm	Chair	Anita Biswas
Venue	Teams	Minutes	Vibha Mistry

Item	Discussion	Action(s)
1. Welcome	<p>Attendees:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Anita Biswas – Lead Advisory Teacher of the Deaf (ToD), Barnet • Vibha Mistry – Paediatric Audiologist, Whittington Health • Rachel Blowes – ToD at UCLH (BAHA/H/aids/Implants) • Lisa York – Local NHSP Manager Barnet, Enfield, Haringey • Simone Banks – Advisory ToD Barnet • Kalpna Patel – Head of Provision at Hendon School • Yetty Meadows- Speech and language therapist (SLT) Barnet • El Assif-Eshun - Pathway Lead, Hearing, Listening & Communication Rehabilitation Pathway, Highly Specialist Speech and Language Therapist • Julia Mansell – SLT • Joanna Wanmer – National Deaf Childrens Society (NDCS) • Maya Finklestein – Parent • Khilna Shah – Parent • Tuxa – Parent 	

	Apologies: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Deborah Tetstill - ToD Kerry White – Summerside school 	
2. BSL	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Invited speaker to discuss GCSE in BSL has been postponed BSL in GCSE - British Deaf Association (bda.org.uk) BDA calls on Government to invest in Deaf teachers to deliver British Sign Language GCSE - British Deaf Association Above links explains processes, questions, challenges about recruiting teachers Aiming for the GCSE to start in Sept 2025 but it is not clear who will be teaching. People want deaf tutors but not many that are fully qualified to offer tuition in school so thinking of coders / children of deaf adults who are fluent in BSL 	
3. Parent	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> How to ensure testing is done for children who may have family history of hearing loss Process for this as well as for children who do not have a family history of hearing loss 	LY to follow up with parent
4. Service Updates	<u>RB – UCLH</u> <p>We continue to receive referrals for children from this area. We have a number of children accessing our services at RNENT – CI, CHAD, BAHA.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Ensure all changes of educational placement are made known to ICTOD/implant centre tod in particular any Out of Borough. Upgrade tracker- TOD will be notified when child is due for upgrade to give TOD time to purchase new receivers-option to fit locally or with us. Appt only booked when equipment is in place to ensure continuity of radio aids. Email from audiology who says list of children due to be upgraded in next few months, email tods, 	

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • School transfers- please let us know of any new educational placements for Reception, Year 7 and post 16 in September 2024. • Please inform us of any new TODs or SLTs starting in your service September 2024 so we have the correct contact details. • Transition pathway- all 17 year olds will be given a transition appointment to discuss Adults and what they might expect. • We offer training opportunities either online or in person to support CPD for local TODs – The next one is F2F on 27th June discussing validation measures. Express your interest to stephanie.halder@nhs.net as there are still some spaces. • Deaf mosaic exhibition to become permanent in our hospital building • RNENT Auditory Implant department will be participating in the BEARS trial over the next couple of years. BEARS ('Both EARS') is a training package to maximise hearing abilities in older children and teenagers with bilateral cochlear implants and the research is sponsored by Guy's and St Thomas' NHS Trust. This link provides further information: https://www.guysandstthomasbrc.nihr.ac.uk/microsites/bears/ We will be inviting children aged between the ages of 8-16 years, who meet the criteria for the trial, to participate. It may be that some of the children on your caseload are invited. CHAD/BAHA • Email last TOD to see child in CHAD or BAHA • BAHA now has 4 clinics a week on a Thursday (previously 2) • Report issues via the paediatric audiology email- uclh.enquiry.chad.rntne@nhs.net or uclh.paediatric.audiology@nhs.net • To reduce waiting lists, some hearing aid discussions will be led by TOD only to free up audiology clinics for fitting of hearing aids. 	
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Lisa – NHSP

- Our KPI for babies screened by 4 weeks in Q3 was 97.6% for Barnet, which was below target, however this was by current site, so includes the babies who are for outpatients. If we look at creating site i.e. babies born at Barnet we achieved 99.3%, which shows that it is the number of outpatients we are receiving from other sites that is having an impact on this.

The number of outpatients has improved since the three new part-time screeners started at Camden and Islington. We have noticed a reduced number of outpatients and hope that this will start to reflect in our KPI's, but probably won't show in the KPI's until Q1 2024 -2025.

We still have a part-time band 3 screening post to advertise for Barnet and hope to do this soon, however it is having very little impact on our inpatient screening.

23/24 babies who required an immediate referral to audiology, were offered an appointment within the required timescales (standard 4), which means that we did not meet the acceptable level of 97%, we achieved 95.8%. The one baby who was not offered an appointment within the required timescale, was at the parents request as they were away over the Christmas Period.

There were 21/24 babies who required an immediate referral and who were brought for an audiological assessment appointment in the required timescale. (NH2), so again we did not meet the acceptable level of 90%, we achieved 87.5%. The three babies not seen were due to families cancelling or not attending their appointments.

We are currently developing and updating our SOP's across NCL, especially for our outpatients, with a view to improving the way that we appoint and improve the attendance at clinics.

NDCS - CHSWG guidance published | National Deaf Children's Society
(ndcs.org.uk)

- CHSWG Update report – to be shared. Links / information about recent research, news, events in the country, links to events for families, young people, training opportunities for professionals .
- NDCS launched a new app for parents / carers, more user friendly compared to website. Can tailor the app and save the links you are interested in.
- NDCS Helpline link to be shared – lots of ways parents can connect with NDCS by email/phone/text/BSL

Kalpna – Hendon head of provision of deaf students –

- Students are working hard for their GCSE's and Level 2 Exams
- Trying to plan ahead for Yr 6 induction days
- Inviting Yr5 students to visit

SLT –

- Team are now fully staffed
- New stream added and seeing children with mild to moderate hearing losses
- Working more closely with ToD's and seeing more children in secondary school
- Yetty – sees children in secondary schools
- EI – sees children in Mainstream schools
- Toddler group/Talking ToDs – good turnout with a wide range of ages. Supportive group

Simone –

- BSL group started a few weeks ago
- Age ranges from a month old to 3yrs old
- Signing songs as well

	<p><u>Anita / Advisory team</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Team consists of 3 ToD's (1x Full time, 2x part time 4 days a week) • Team work with Ewing Foundation Technician for 8 visits a year. Toady, technician spoke with families about assistive listening devices/ALD's which was useful especially for families unfamiliar with radio aids which are mainly kept in school • Job advert to go out for technician which will be shared with the visual impairment / VI team • ToD Caseload is growing every month. Team are tryin to meet the NatSip Criteria 	
5. AOB	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Every local authority has a local offer. • Local offer is a website for parents/families of children with special educational needs/SEN • To find local offer, type 'Local offer Barnet' into a search engine • Local offer also provides website links for training which is aimed at parents • Tuesday June 18th – BSL Signed performance at Barnet music festival. Children have learned a signed song which they will perform. The whole show on this date will be BSL interpreted. Festival being held at ArtsDepot starting 7pm • Youth club – Barnet youth club first day will be on Monday 17th June for children aged 8-15years. Location: Unitas Building, 76 Montrose Avenue, Edgware. Time: 4.30pm-6pm. Club is held once a month and more information can be found on the local offer and BELS Website. Sessions are supervised by ToDs 	
6. Useful links	<p>NDCS helpline: https://www.ndcs.org.uk/our-services/services-for-families/helpline/</p> <p>CHSWG webpage – right at the bottom are resources including the list of questions used for the Moving on Survey should CHSWGs like to do their own version, plus the 2 posters I referenced.</p>	

	<p>https://www.ndcs.org.uk/our-services/improving-local-services/childrens-hearing-services-working-groups-chswgs/</p> <p>There's also a 'blog' page about CHSWGs and the publication of the CHSWG guidance in 2019 that I sent you earlier during the meeting.</p> <p>https://www.ndcs.org.uk/blog/chswg-guidance-published/</p>	
7. Next meeting	<p>Next meeting – Thursday 11th July @ 13:30pm-15:00pm Minute taker – Yetty Meadows Chair – Anita Biswas</p> <p>Aim:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Decide about rolling chairs • Prepare for next years CHSWG meetings • Discuss summer activities and family support over the summer holidays 	