

CHSWG Update Report

Term and Year: Spring 2023 (2)

Local Engagement Team Update

[The Local Engagement Team](#)

[Improving Local Services](#)

[Children's Hearing Services Working Groups information and resources](#)

Other news for services (UK wide)

Education

Online and remote education (England)

The DfE has recently published an updated edition of their non-statutory guidance [Providing remote education: guidance for schools](#), including new material on supporting children with special educational needs or disabilities and with links to our page on making online learning accessible to deaf children.

SEND review improvement plan (England)

The Department for Education has set out its plans to improve the SEND system, following their SEND review consultation last year. It includes a commitment to ensuring there are sufficient Teachers of the Deaf and to reviewing the supply of these. Our [initial analysis](#) of the improvement plan sets out our thoughts overall.

Cross-border commissioning (England)

We've developed a [position paper](#) setting out our views on the cross-border commissioning of specialist education services and provision for deaf children.

Information on National Deaf Children's Society national campaigns (UK wide)

Teacher of the Deaf video (England)

The Government's SEND Improvement Plan includes some positive steps in the right direction for Teachers of the Deaf and education support for deaf children. Our new video is a great reminder of why Teachers of the Deaf are so important. [Please watch and share the video.](#)

Parliamentary event in Westminster (England)

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At the end of February, we headed to Parliament in Westminster. Almost 30 MPs popped in to see us and it was fantastic to talk to them face-to-face about the barriers deaf children face in education.

We raised the urgent need to invest in more Teachers of the Deaf and why the British Sign Language GCSE must be available in schools as soon as possible.

We were also joined by deaf young people and parents who shared their own experiences with parliamentarians. [Watch a short video of the event here.](#)

Research

Education Policy Institute report on deaf children's outcomes (England)

The EPI report takes an in-depth look at deaf children's educational outcomes between 2011 and 2019. [Our blog](#) provides a summary of its key findings.

Emotional Well-being Survey of Deaf Children and Young People

Last year, we surveyed deaf young people to find out more about their mental health and well-being and to see what comparisons we could make with other children, drawing from the Good Childhood Index. [Our report](#) summarises the findings.

Baby Soundscapes project

UCL have published a [summary](#) of their forthcoming report *Understanding the sound environments of babies and toddlers*. It recommends that, providing families receive good guidance on effective use, radio aids can be beneficial for deaf children under the age of 18 months.

Resources and training

New and updated resources

- In the [Spring 2023 Families magazine](#) we have Anna's inspiring story. Her family made the decision to leave Ukraine after Russia invaded Kyiv, they resettled in Scotland and are using sign language to help Anna understand what has happened and to learn about her new surroundings.
- We've updated our [online careers information for deaf young people](#).

Free e-learning modules

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Our free e-learning modules are a great way to improve your knowledge and achieve CPD credits at a time and place to suit you. They take from 10 minutes to one hour to complete. [Find out more.](#)

Upcoming dates for CPD accredited training workshops

Our expert trainers deliver interactive workshops that will help you support deaf children and young people to achieve their potential:

[Healthy Minds training workshop for Northern Ireland professionals](#) 15 March, 10am to 5pm, Derry~Londonderry or 17 May, 10am to 5pm, Portadown.

Our free in-person interactive workshop is packed full of creative ideas on how to run activities to support the emotional health and wellbeing of deaf children and young people.

[Raising a Deaf Child Facilitator Training](#) 26 April and 3 May 2023, 1pm to 2.30pm, £70

This workshop will enable you to confidently deliver our Raising a Deaf Child programme with the families you work with.

[Supporting Deaf Children in Early Years Settings](#) 7 June 2023, 6pm to 7.30pm, £40

Learn how to fully include deaf children in the life of your early years setting.

[Healthy Minds](#) 8, 15, 22 and 29 June 2023, 1pm to 2.30pm, £90

Learn how to run activities to help support the emotional health and wellbeing of deaf children and young people.

[Deaf Awareness for Early Years Practitioners](#) 13 July 2023, 6pm to 7.30pm, £20

Learn how to confidently support children with hearing loss in your setting.

Events and support for parents, deaf children and young people (UK wide)

Events for families

- There is a broad range of in person and online events on offer including New to Hearing Loss in person and online events, Baby and Toddler sessions, Happy Hands sessions (formerly known as Baby Sign) Information and Advice sessions as well as online courses including online Family Sign Language. Find out more [here](#)

[Happy Futures: Transforming Deaf Children's Mental Health](#), 17 June 2023, 10am to 4:30pm, C7 Conference Centre, 100 High Craighall Road, Glasgow, G4 9UD, free.

Deaf children are 60% more likely to experience mental health problems than hearing children. This free in-person event is for parents and carers to learn more about supporting their child's emotional health and wellbeing. It will cover:

- reasons why deaf children and young people are more likely to experience mental health issues
- practical advice to encourage good emotional health among deaf children

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- real-life stories and experiences from other families and deaf young people.

[Family Sign Language Weekend](#) Saturday 25 to Sunday 26 March 2023, 10am – 3pm, Swansea, Wales, free
This free in-person course is aimed at families with children aged 0 to 13 years old, who have little or no experience in sign language. Topics we will cover:

- Communicating with people
- daily routines
- mealtimes
- feelings and much more.

Events for young people

[Your Future: Deaf Role Models in the Emergency Services](#)

Online event for 18 to 25 year olds - 29 March 2023, 7.15 to 8.30pm

[Watch previous Your Future webinars](#)

Some of the previous sessions are now available to watch online. Suitable for 13 to 25 year olds. Each recording is 75 minutes and has British Sign Language and captions available.

Connecting Families

We're working to help every parent and carer of a deaf child to be able to benefit from opportunities to connect with other families with deaf children.

From one-to-one peer support, through to groups and local deaf children's societies, we know that parents really value being able to talk and share with other parents. And, of course, deaf children and young people can gain so much from the chance to come together, try new things and have fun – as well as meeting role models and developing their own identities.

Help us to connect more families by sharing our [map of local groups](#) – and talking about all the ways we can help. If you have parents who are keen to connect – and there is not currently a local group in your area, we can help.

Find out more [here](#), or get in touch with us at connecting.families@ndcs.org.uk for more information about groups, helping a group, starting a group – and anything to help connect more families.

Contact

Email us at localengagement@ndcs.org.uk