Paediatric Speech and Language Team

We provide a specialist inpatient service for babies, children and young people up to the age of 16. The Speech and Language Therapists in the team offer assessment, diagnosis and therapy interventions to children with speech, language and communication difficulties as well as eating, drinking and swallowing problems. We work across the paediatric wards C2, C3, D2, F3, PICU and NICU.

We offer training to both staff and families within the hospital, to enable them to best support the children they are caring for. We work closely with members of the multidisciplinary team including doctors, nurses and other therapists, in order to provide the highest quality and individualised care for patients. We work in conjunction with local Speech and Language Therapy teams across East Anglia, to facilitate a supported discharge and transition back home.

There are also a number of outpatient paediatric speech and language therapy services (marked * below), which are based at Addenbrooke’s hospital.

The specialist services provided by our team consist of:

- Neonatal Intensive Care: Supporting developmental care and early communication skills, as well as providing assessment and intervention for babies with feeding difficulties.
- Paediatric Intensive Care: Provides specialist intervention to children on the Intensive Care Unit.
- Oncology: Supporting children at Addenbrooke’s with cancer.
- Brainbow*: Charity funded service supporting children across East Anglia with brain tumours, both in hospital and as outpatients. https://www.cuh.nhs.uk/addenbrookes-hospital/services/brainbow
- Long Term Ventilation Clinic*: Part of the multidisciplinary team who provide outpatient care for children with chronic airway difficulties requiring ventilation
- Emmeline Centre for Hearing Implants*: Supporting children and adults who have communication difficulties resulting from hearing loss https://www.cuh.nhs.uk/emmeline-centre-for-hearing-implants/about-us
- Cleft Lip and Palate*: Service run by the Regional Cleft.NetEast group based at Addenbrooke’s Hospital https://www.cuh.nhs.uk/cleftneteast-regional-cleft-service
- Gastroenterology service*: Multidisciplinary service for children with complex eating
and drinking difficulties. This includes the outpatient programme ‘TASTE’ (Treatment and Support for Tricky Eaters)
- Videofluoroscopy *: Monthly clinic run in conjunction with the Consultant Paediatric Radiologist, to assess a child’s swallow function using x-ray