

How long will I have to wait for an appointment?

When the referral is received the speech and language therapist will contact you so we can assess how urgently you need to be seen.

Communication difficulties

The wait may depend on how the difficulty is affecting you and whether you have seen a speech and language therapist before.

Swallowing difficulties

If you need an urgent swallowing assessment we will aim to do this within 2 working days.

If you cannot attend your appointment

If you are unable to attend your appointment please contact us as soon as possible on **01226 432377**.

If you do not keep your appointment we will contact you to arrange another. However, if you do not respond to this, you may be discharged and we will need a new referral before we can see you again.

Letting us know if you are going to miss an appointment as soon as possible makes the best use of NHS resources and gives us the opportunity to offer your appointment to another person, so we appreciate your co-operation.

Contact us

Community speech and language therapy services

Block 15, Barnsley Hospital
Gawber Road
Barnsley, S75 2EP

Telephone: 01226 432377

Fax: 01226 432373

www.barnsleytherapy.co.uk



Job No. 6210 March 2015

Your feedback is welcome

We invite you to share any comments, compliments, concerns or complaints you have about our service. Please speak to a member of staff or contact our Customer Services team on 0800 587 2108. If you would like help understanding this information, please also contact us on this number.



Community speech and language therapy

Information for patients

We assess, diagnose and provide therapy for people with communication and/or swallowing difficulties. We do this in clinics, people's own homes and care homes.

www.barnsleytherapy.co.uk

01226 432377



With all of us in mind

What do speech and language therapy do?

We aim to improve a person's ability to communicate on a day to day basis. We hope to increase an individual's independence and maximise their abilities wherever possible.

We also help people to manage any swallowing difficulties they may have and aim to enable them to continue to eat and drink safely. Difficulties can include coughing or a gurgly voice after eating or drinking, feeling of food or drink sticking in the throat, or repeated unexplained chest infections.

Who do we work with?

We work with people with communication and/or swallowing difficulties caused by a variety of conditions. These include stroke, stammering, neurological conditions such as Parkinson's disease and dementia, and respiratory problems such as COPD.



What will happen?

Communication difficulties

Services are provided at Barnsley Hospital, your own home or a care home (including intermediate care beds).

Following an individual assessment we will work with you to agree achievable goals. We will also agree your treatment plan which will include times/dates of future appointments and the length of your treatment.

Swallowing difficulties

Assessment can take place in an outpatient clinic, at home or in a care home. Following an individual assessment we will work with you to agree a course of action. Sometimes changing the textures of food or the thickness of drinks may be helpful in managing your swallowing problem, but we will advise you on this. It may also be necessary for you to have follow-up appointments or for us to refer you on for more tests.

What can't the service provide?

We cannot treat anyone under the age of 16 years.

Also, if you have recently been discharged from the speech and language therapy service then a re-referral may not be appropriate at this time. Please speak to us directly or to your GP.

How can I get referred to the service?

Communication difficulties

You are welcome to contact us directly, or your representative can. Just give us a call.

Swallowing difficulties

You are welcome to contact us directly, or your representative can. We usually inform your GP of the referral before we see you.

Referrals are also accepted from nurses, care homes and other health professionals.

