

Welcome to
the **Southwark
Hearing Support
Service (SHSS)**
2023 Summer One
Newsletter.



WELCOME

Welcome to the Southwark Hearing Support Service (SHSS) 2023 Summer One Newsletter. In this issue, we are introducing another new team member and also telling you all about The Children's Hearing Services Working Group, CHSWG, and asking some of you to join.

We hope that you all have been keeping well and enjoyed the extra bank holiday weekend. We have been busy welcoming a new member to our team. His name is Kevin Jewell. Some of you will have already met him but for those of you who haven't yet here is a hello from Kevin himself.

KEVIN JEWELL



I am joining the Southwark Hearing Service with experience from both another Sensory Support Service and Resource Provisions. I have been involved with supporting families and their children across all ages.

I am deaf myself and wear two hearing aids. Previously, I have worked in the creative industries alongside deaf professionals and as part of integrated dance companies, touring to Italy, France and Dubai. I have Level 6 British Sign Language. I am looking forward to working with all those on the team and celebrating the achievements of all the deaf young people in Southwark.

It has been great to see more and more of you with little ones coming along to our Under Five's group at 1st Place in Chumleigh Gardens. The next one is on Monday 5th June and we will be joined by audiologists from CYPAC who will be doing moulds for those of you who have little ones that need some new ones. If you do want to come along please get in touch with your QToD ASAP to secure a place.

We are hoping to hold a picnic at the end of term and would love to see as many of you as possible there. A date will be confirmed soon so watch this space.

As always we would love to hear from you about anything you have been getting up to, or any news you would like to share. Have you been anywhere exciting? Have your children had any experiences you would like to tell us about? We want to make this newsletter as much as we can about you all and for you to use it as a tool for information.

Best wishes

Southwark Hearing Support Service



CHILDREN'S HEARING SERVICES WORKING GROUPS (CHSWG)

The Children's Hearing Services Working Group, CHSWG, is a group of parents/carers and professionals who are involved in delivering services to deaf children and their families. Professionals present and discuss their services and parents bring their concerns about services to the group to discuss and try to resolve. Parents are vital to CHSWG as they can drive change that they want to see. Southwark and Lambeth join together to form a CHSWG group.

At present CHSWG meets about 4 times a year, on-line at present, and the meetings last for an hour.

Southwark and Lambeth are blessed with one of the best audiology services in Britain, the Children and Young People's Audiology Services, and part of the reason why they are so good is because they listen to parents and make changes when they can.

Parents are an absolutely vital resource at CHSWG. They can help improve services for their children as their perspective lets us as professionals know what is working well and what isn't and what could be improved. There are also lots of new issues that come up in supporting children and young people with their hearing needs. As parents you are very well placed to bring this conversation to the table.

Southwark has had some excellent representatives previously at CHSWG and did an excellent job of working on your behalf together with professionals to improve services for deaf children in Southwark.

CHSWG are looking at encouraging Southwark Parents to join. You may be seasoned in attending meetings or have never done so before. If you have a voice, big or small, and think you could work with professionals to improve the services for children needing support with their hearing, then contact your teacher of the deaf and let them know. We would be happy to discuss this further with you.

If you would like to learn more about CHSWG then visit the NDCS website, you can also find training and advice for parents on this page in case you want to take this further and join: **Children's Hearing Services Working Groups (CHSWGs) | NDCS (LINK)**

If you would like more information about anything in this newsletter please do get in touch with your ToD.

A REMINDER OF HOW TO GET IN CONTACT WITH US

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