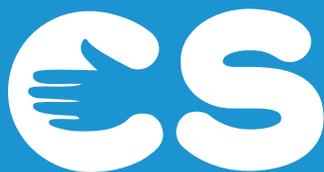


See
what Cued
Speech UK is
saying...



IMPACT REPORT
2022 - 2023

CUED SPEECH UK

Makes spoken language visible for
deaf babies, children and adults

The Boatshed, Steamer Quay, Totnes, Devon TQ9 5AL

info@cuedspeech.co.uk • www.cuedspeech.co.uk • 01803 712853

Registered with the Charity Commission of England and Wales No. 279523.

A Company Limited by Guarantee No. 1477997



Makes spoken language visible for deaf babies, children and adults

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An introduction from Cued Speech UK Executive Director Henrietta Ireland

It is a privilege to be able to work creatively and respond to need. I enjoy being able to gather the staff team together and look at our strengths and weaknesses, the needs of our beneficiaries, discuss challenges and possibilities with the Trustees, create an improvement plan and deliver it.

After six years of being the Executive Director I am now able to reflect on what is working well, and what needs to change in order to keep the Charity ALIVE and moving forwards.

These will be described throughout this report.



Makes spoken language visible for deaf babies, children and adults

CUED SPEECH CORE VALUES

C - to **Collaborate** with agencies and services in order to meet the needs of deaf children and adults.

U - to **Understand** the specific needs of deaf children and the professionals and family that support the child.

E - to provide **Equal** opportunities in access to language.

D - to continue to **Develop** the scope of our positive impact on the lives of deaf children and adults and their families.

S - to embed our **Safeguarding** principles throughout our practice.

P - to recognise the importance of **Parents** in their child's development.

E - **Early Years** - to recognise that language development begins from birth.

E - to promote the use of Cued Speech in **Education** so that deaf children can achieve age appropriate literacy.

CH - Every parent deserves a fully informed **Choice** to make the best decision for their child's communication.

OUR AIM

To ensure that all deaf children and adults can be given full access to English or their home language through Cued Speech regardless of their level of hearing loss; with this they can develop their language and literacy skills to reach their full potential socially, emotionally and economically.



Find out about Cued Speech
email info@cuedspeech.co.uk
or call 01803 712853

One parent said:

"I am so glad that I was referred through audiology to our Regional Family Advisor, otherwise I wouldn't have found out about CS. I can now understand that babies born deaf need language right from the start"



Makes spoken language visible for deaf babies, children and adults

WHAT IS CUED SPEECH?

It takes just 20 hours to learn to Cue. Cueing puts language in your hands and gives your deaf child language and literacy for life.

Cued Speech is a manual system, using eight handshapes in four positions near the mouth which represents the 44 phonemes (sounds) used in the English language. You Cue in 'real time' as you speak and talk normally to clarify lip patterns to assist lip reading. With Cued Speech, lip reading levels can increase from about 35% to 96% accuracy, enabling deaf children and adults to see speech and so perceive and understand (one comes before the other) complete spoken language.

You can help your deaf baby or

child **SEE** every word that you say as clearly as a hearing child hears words.

Over 90% of deaf children are born to hearing families who use spoken languages in the home. If the hearing family learn to Cue, their deaf babies and children can see what they are saying and develop a fluent mental model of the home language. Over time this supports social and emotional growth and increasingly sophisticated thinking and communication which is vital for achieving full potential in all areas of life.

Cued Speech Chart British English

Rule 1
Consonants on their own: **Side placement**



Rule 2
Vowels on their own: **Handshape 5**

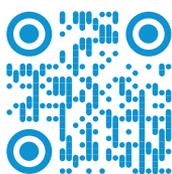


Rule 3
Consonant followed by a vowel: **TO GETHER**

/z/	/th/	/h/	/k/	/r/	/l/	/v/	/w/	/TH/	/y/	/ee/	/el/	/put/	/tar/	/ay/	/ear/	/air/	/ey/
/p/	/k/	/h/	/n/	/s/	/b/	/m/	/w/	/TH/	/y/	/ee/	/el/	/put/	/tar/	/ay/	/ear/	/air/	/ey/
/d/	/z/	/r/	/n/	/s/	/b/	/m/	/w/	/TH/	/y/	/ee/	/el/	/put/	/tar/	/ay/	/ear/	/air/	/ey/
1.	2.	3.	4.	5.	6.	7.	8.	9.	10.	11.	12.	13.	14.	15.	16.	17.	18.
Handshapes									Placements								
									Two Placements (Always end with handshape 5)								
									Mouth								
									Chin								
									Throat								
									Side								

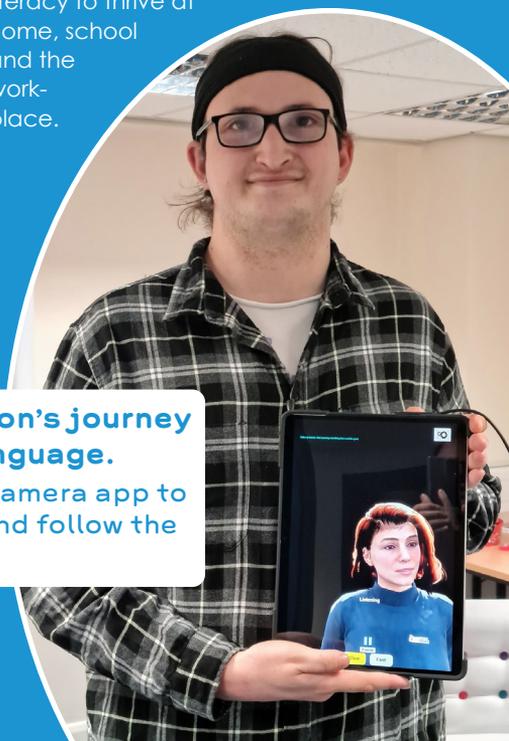
WHY WE NEED CUED SPEECH

- ✓ Cued Speech enhances the ability to lip read.
- ✓ Cueing can be used to support the development of good listening skills.
- ✓ Cueing can help the deaf child to pronounce words clearly and correctly.
- ✓ Cued Speech enables two-way communication and can easily be used alongside signing
- ✓ With Cued Speech you can talk to your deaf child right from the start.
- ✓ Cueing the home language enables deaf children to be fully included in family life.
- ✓ Cued Speech provides access to a full and rich first language on which you can build other languages including British Sign Language.
- ✓ Cued Speech can be used in many languages.
- ✓ Cueing will give you a safety-net to keep communication flowing while waiting for hearing aids or implants and at all those times when listening is not possible.
- ✓ With Cued Speech deaf children can achieve age-appropriate reading levels.
- ✓ Cued Speech can be learnt in 20 hours or less
- ✓ CSUK aspires to a model of deaf inclusion and equal opportunities where every deaf child and young person has the language and literacy to thrive at home, school and the work-place.



Watch: One deaf person's journey seeing the English language.

Use your smartphone's camera app to focus on this QR Code and follow the link when it appears.





Makes spoken language visible for deaf babies, children and adults

OUR ACTIVITIES

0 - 4 The referral of babies through Audiology and Hearing Impairment Services - CHOICES

Choices is our specifically designed programme for the referral of parents of deaf babies following new-born Hearing Screening. We have worked closely with audiology departments and developed a referral pathway in the regions in which CSUK RFA's are based. This has been most successfully implemented in Plymouth but we have strong interest from other regions, in particular, Exeter and Mid Devon Audiology services, CHIME.

The Team at CSUK are convinced that the CHOICES model is the best one for parents because parents want to make the best choices for their deaf child(ren)

WHY:-

- Parents need to be able to get language into their deaf babies right from the start, just like hearing babies.
- Parents have to understand the difference between 'speech and language', and 'language and communication' so they can make a fully informed choice as to which interventions will be best for them and their child. We respect that each child is unique in their needs and each family situation is different.
- The choices that are made need to be child-centred.

- For example, a family may choose for their child to receive a cochlear implant and enhance their listening and English language/literacy development with Cued Speech, they may also use basic signing for communication and one day go on to learn full British Sign Language.



What families say about the CHOICES program

"It's really good to be able to meet parents who are in the same boat as us and have a good moan with others who understand the challenges of bringing up a deaf child."

Language and Literacy for Life 0 - 18 years of age

How many families have we worked with this year:

Numbers of people engaged with CSUK April 2022 - 1st March 2023

Family members: **106**

Professional: **128**

Presented to: **423**

Individual deaf children benefiting from Cued Speech use 2022/23: **324**

CSUK Regional Family Advisors made:

136 Home visits to families with a deaf child to deliver our CS training and support package

87 virtual visits via ZOOM.

30 Parent/child playgroups – supporting deaf children with Cued Speech out of the home. The decrease in numbers can be attributed to the same challenges as above.





Makes spoken language visible for deaf babies, children and adults

TRAINING PROFESSIONALS

- ✓ 12 Cued Speech Foundation group training sessions. These sessions were accessed online. The number of people accessing online training has decreased now that professionals have returned to their working context and we are looking at how to re-engage the interest in our online course. We are hoping to devise an accredited course in the year 2023 – 2024.
- ✓ 10 workshops to schools, audiology services and parent groups to introduce the concept and value of Cued Speech and the range of our services.



One parent who accessed training through our regional family advisor said; "After I had learnt to Cue with Kathy who came to my house to teach me, I then used the online self study and it really helped to consolidate my Cueing skills. The results are amazing because my daughter is able to talk with much more confidence and clarity."

U was a 10 year old child from Nigeria who came to school in September 2022 without any language or literacy, his teacher told us; "Cued Speech is working, I can see that he is starting to recognise words and be able to read them for himself, after only nine months."

LOVE READING

Love Reading is a comprehensive project which includes four workstreams. Three of the workstreams include our collaboration with Robotica ML, digital innovation and the work that we are doing using avatars.

1. Nan in a Van (Love Literacy)

CSUK and Robotica ML are behind their timeline for development and delivery of the second series of the e-books Nan in a Van. This is due to rapid changes and upgrading of the software used in the creation of the avatar and quality assuring the product. We have also been waiting for our full set of illustrations. However, I think you will agree that it has been worth the wait as we will have a unique literacy resource for Key Stage 1 deaf learners.

Nan in a Van prototype is already being successfully used in schools.

The CSUK Literacy Resource also includes uCue.



1b. uCue

uCue This APP is arranged into three different levels and is designed to help learners to practice Cueing and to help children to access literacy,

Level 1 - See it, Cue it

Level 2 - See it, Cue it, Read it, Write it

Level 3 - Word building and manipulation with unlimited vocabulary

Parents are starting to use uCue bronze and our early 1st edition has been modified and improved from 60 to 100 words and with an updated avatar.

ROBOTICA.

CUED SPEECH UK

uCUE

uCue is a game to teach English and lip-reading by making the sounds visible as visual cues




GET IT ON
Google Play

Download on the
App Store

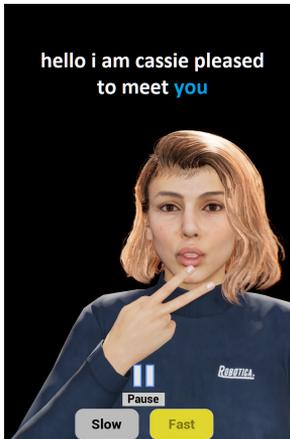


Makes spoken language visible for deaf babies, children and adults

LOVE READING

2. iCue (LoveLipReading/ LoveCueing)

Cassie iCue uses advanced AI technology that gives a digital transliteration service: an avatar appears on-screen in a hand-held device and Cues what is heard via speech recognition technology and applies live captioning. The device gives deaf users independence and choice in how they access spoken information. Cassie can be used to Cue read and with practice can be used to support lip-reading.



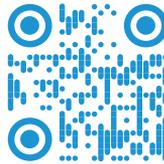
We are now on the 8th Generation of 'Cassie.' However, there have been benefits to the slow production time. Our test group of lip-readers tell us that Cassie's lip patterns are increasingly readable and her Cueing handshapes and placements are now accurate and fluid. Therefore, while we have made a slow start, we are ensuring

and investing in a quality animation for the future and the software which is now being used is much easier to adapt to the development of other products and resources. Cassie has been trialled by five deaf users and taken to conferences on the Cued Speech trade stand and into schools for feedback and comment from potential users.

3. Love Reading Stories

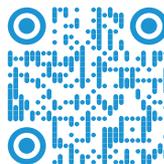
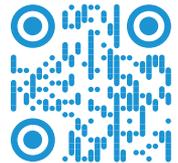
We have a collection of stories that with the permission of the author(s) have been transliterated by Carly Simpson, and filmed and edited by Red Stamp Productions.

Carly says; "I have been working with a Northeast production company, Red Stamp, to help bring children's stories to life for deaf children" These books have been given to CSUK by their authors to use as part of our Love Stories series.



Mindy Nose Best
by Lisa Bentley

Wonderfully me
by Becky Zingale



Horuda
by Kinga White

4. LoveLanguages.

Our amazing linguist and Cue Tutor, Emma Sadeghi, came to the office in Totnes for a full day of filming, Emma has long been in the process of designing workbooks to support people wanting to Cue in different languages. So far, she has been working on British English, Welsh and Spanish and plans are underway to add French, German, Urdu and even Hebrew in the future. Each workbook will be downloadable from our website and include links to films demonstrating how to Cue

the different word-lists and phrases in the book. We hope this will be a useful resource for anyone and particularly for those supporting a deaf child to access the language clubs and classes at school, as so often deaf children are not included in this part of the curriculum.



Find out about Cued Speech
email info@cuedspeech.co.uk
or call 01803 712853

Llafar Llwyrr
Cymraeg





Makes spoken language visible for deaf babies, children and adults

CUED SPEECH IN SCHOOLS

Our work in schools is ongoing and we are encouraging staff to use CS at language level as well as using it

for literacy learning. In our flagship school in Plymouth we are training new members of staff and supporting educators in secondary education to enable the continued support of children in education through the transition from primary to secondary School.

M, a Higher Learning Teaching Assistant, (HLTA) reports on E's progress. "E met other deaf children outside her school for the first time today, we invited deaf pupils from 3 schools to join us for the Love Reading afternoon. She was keen to engage and attentive throughout the Cueing stories. At the end of the afternoon E shared her painting activity with the other children." M said; "This is significant progress for E. When she started school she was very isolated from her peers, easily distracted and often withdrawn. She has been at her school now for just over a year and the change in her confidence and well-being is a joy to see."

More schools are seeing the impact of Cued Speech on literacy learning and asking for training and we are now supporting 5 schools.



MEDIA ENGAGEMENT



Facebook 2022/23

Total Reach	Average Reach	Total Engagement (likes, Comments and Shares)	Page Visits	Total Interactions
22,351	269	1662	1451 (up 161%)	23,494



Instagram

Instagram Stats	2021-22	2022-23
Posts Including Videos	23 Videos and Posts	40
Views	486 Likes	564 Views
Likes	89 Likes	116 Likes





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NETWORKING AND ENGAGEMENT

We started the year providing a key-note speech at the British Cochlear Implant Group Conference in Cardiff. We were there with 4 members of staff, a trustee, one of our excellent patrons, Mr Gavin Morrison, and joined by our industry collaborator Adrian Pickering from Robotica Machine Learning. We were invited to attend the conference by Nicola George.



Wales:

- 16th April - Audiology Conference Cardiff University - Kathy
- 26th – 27th April - British Cochlear Implant Conference Meeting Cardiff - Kathy, Hen, Cate, Adrian and Vikki
- 15th – 16th September - Meeting with Torfaen in Wales - Kathy and Julia

Exeter and the South West

- 10th June - Audiology Meeting Torbay Exeter and North Devon - Cate and Kathy
- 15th October - South Devon British Association of Teachers of the Deaf Day - Kathy
- 28 October CSUK concert at Pennycross Methodist Church



Thanks to our online resources at www.cuedspeech.co.uk we're reaching out more than ever.

Manchester:

- 12th - 14th of September- British Audiology Annual Conference and Exhibition - Hen and Cate

Leeds:

- 10th June - Rehab conference for Hearing Impairment - Carly

Cambridge:

- 4th - 11th July - Deaf Exhibition in Cambridge - Cate

London:

- 07th Feb - Not for Profit networking event Mayfair London - Hen
- 10th November - Sylvia Adams Gala night at the Grocers Hall London - Hen, Cate and Lou



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OUTCOMES REPORT

Our activities:

Attended 15 deaf related events including stands at conferences and attended 3 charity events.



2022/23

12

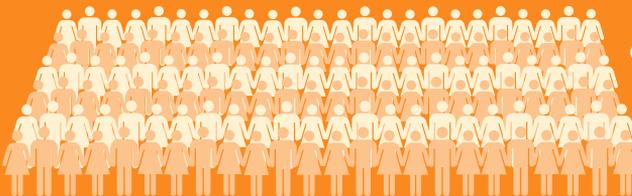
**Choices
programme
sessions**



2022/ 2023

136 Home visits

& 87 Zoom virtual visits delivering our parent and child Cued Speech training and support package.



2022/23 **324** deaf children have been supported through the work of **Cued Speech UK.**

2022/23

48

Love Reading
sessions
including
school visits



2022/23

76%

of the children
Cued-to have
shown greater
confidence.



2022/23

10

Cued
Speech
Workshops



2022/23

30

Parent/Child
playgroups
supporting deaf
children with
Cued Speech out
of the home



2022/23

87.5%

of Cued-to
children have
shown positive
progress in family
participation



2022/23

80%

of Cued-to
children have
made positive
progress in
literacy skills.





Makes spoken language visible for deaf babies, children and adults

FUNDRAISING

Charity night Autumn concert.

This was a great success, fully transliterated into Cued English and interpreted into BSL. A collaborative event arranged by Kathy Kenny from CSUK who is also an accomplished musician. We had members from the Military Wives Choir, accompanied by Hands in Harmony, a signing choir, an expressive dancer and deaf children from Egguckland School all singing, signing and Cueing. It was a remarkable event.



REVIEW 2022 - 2023 AND FUTURE PLANS 2023 - 2027

Family Interventions These numbers are less than 2021 - 2022. We have partly attributed the decrease in numbers to the loss of a Regional Family Advisor in Wales.

CSUK managed the change from face-to-face to virtual and online delivery during Covid both efficiently and effectively. We were one of the few services still available for deaf children while they were at home during lockdown. There was little or no change in the number of families that we worked with. The reverse change from lockdown to face-to-face post Covid was less evident.

Different regions adopted different practice and individuals varied in their risk response to infection, so there were a number of different elements of change to manage. It was during our six month outcome review that our data started to indicate that we were working with fewer families face-to-face: in particular, Wales was not delivering as in previous years. (Wales had much more restrictive 'lockdown' policies.) We have been reminded never to become complacent following success. As of April 2023, we are now back on-track with our family engagement and attending playgroups.

Digital: Development has been slower than anticipated. A lesson learnt from this year is that when you work in partnership with another organisation, you can only move as fast as the slowest developmental element of the project, and this project has a lot of moving parts. But we are getting there and our e-books will be in school by September 2023.

What have we learnt? Make realistic achievable goals, not the goals that we would like to achieve.

What's the plan 2023 - 2027?

Family Support - How: We are going to need a team who can deliver information and support to parents on making the best hearing and communication choices for their

deaf child, this will include training in Cued Speech and basic British Sign Language. Over the next three years we intend to build a multi-agency team with a deaf BSL user, a Teacher of the Deaf and advice and guidance from a Speech and Language Therapist. We already have excellent teachers and trainers in Cued Speech.

Our team needs to be flexible: no one person can be indispensable, and with a team who are only getting older we are keen to train, support and mentor new team members through employment and volunteering opportunities. Over the next four years we hope to secure funding for these new posts.

When: We are in a good position to develop and pilot a multiagency approach in the South West because we have a strong foundation for referral into our Service (Charity) and good support in schools around us, where we have trained many professionals.

CSUK will be the ONLY Charity who will be offering these interventions free for families.

Adults: Some of our resources, in particular Cassie iCUE, could make an important contribution to learning to lip read. Cassie has accurate, easy-to-read lip patterns and when supported by the Cues of Cued Speech, these are around 98% accurate for lip reading. We are hoping to market the resource to adults with degenerative hearing loss and deaf adults.

Training: We need to improve our engagement and increase the numbers who look to access our online training.

We propose to develop our online learning to include units that can be accredited towards higher learning qualifications. We also intend to replace our current exams with a graded skills-assessment that provides Cuers with an easy way to practise their skills and take regular short tests to reflect their up-to-date skill-level.



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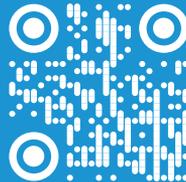
DONATE TO CUED SPEECH UK

Everyone at Cued Speech UK works very hard to make sure that families with deaf children receive our training and support for **FREE OF CHARGE**. We are funded entirely by grants from charitable trusts, foundations and voluntary donations from people like you.

Every penny you donate helps Cued Speech UK to make spoken language visual and transform the lives of families with deaf children. Donate as an individual or make Cued Speech UK your organisation's chosen charity and raise a donation with a fundraising event.

Make a one-off or regular monthly donation by visiting our website www.cuedspeech.org.uk and clicking on 'Support Us'. You can find out about many different ways to help us. Let us know if you can volunteer to support our events. You can also organise a fundraising activity and why not set up a legacy fund, to leave something for us in your will?

We are grateful to all our funders.



Visit our **Support Us page**. Use your smartphone's camera app to focus on this QR Code and follow the link when it appears.

Thank you to our major donors



Thank you for every donation, large, medium or small it makes a significant difference to the life of a deaf child.

AND FINALLY

After 15 years with CSUK, Debbie shares her experience of change:

15 years is a long time to work anywhere!

When I first applied for the role I hadn't heard of Cued Speech, believing that BSL was the only option of communication if you were deaf.

The offices were in the Old Abattoir on the top of Jaw Bones Hill in Dartmouth, an address you really couldn't make up! Newsletters were printed and posted, and post was recorded in a book. Cued Speech (International) Camps happened every year organised by Kim Fricker and me as admin support. This was an enormous task for a small charity, they were big and expensive but enjoyed by all who attended.

Financial and time constraints in 2017 meant that big events had to be halted and the Charity moved to new premises, this time an old Tavern. Anne Worsfold retired after many years of heading CSUK to be replaced by Henrietta Ireland. We are now established in lovely offices next to the River Dart in Totnes.

Fast forward to 2023, and digital technology has made a phenomenal difference to our work and my role. We have online training, Regional Family Advisors, digital resources that include a

synthetic phonic e-book range and Cassie iCUE, developed to give digital transliteration, and most of my work can be accessed via the 'cloud.'

There have been financial highs and lows over the last 15 years, inevitable for such a small charity. Some things have had to change, like no longer being able to fund the big events that we had in the past. My role is described as Senior Administrator, and the role includes bookkeeping, HR, H&S and general help. I still love my job especially when we hear about the beneficiaries and the difference that Cued Speech can make to children and families. Oh, and not forgetting the fantastic team I work with!





Henrietta Ireland
Executive Director, Totnes Office



Louise Creed
Office Manager,
Totnes Office



Cate Calder
Training Lead,
UK wide



Kathy Kenny
Lead Cued Speech
Regional Adviser,
Devon/Cornwall



Debbie Hawke
Senior Team
Administrator,
Totnes Office



Mark Murton
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Assistant, Totnes Office



Sagira Jetha
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Herts/Barnet



Julia Tomlinson
Cued Speech
Regional Adviser,
South Wales



Carly Simpson
Cued Speech
Regional Adviser,
North East

Cue Tutors:

Huge thanks to our expanding team of CueTutors, who are expertly supporting learners and responding to the demand for Cued Speech in the UK

Consultants:

Nick Gornall, Web Design
Harrison Pidgeon, Graphic Design
Nicki Bidgood, Human Resources
Tobin Broadbent, Illustrator

CUED SPEECH UK

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