



**Please note that in most cases we try to joint work with the CAMHS team local to your area, as this allows us to have access to the support services and facilities in your area. Therefore, there may be a delay in assessment occurring if the local team is not already involved with the young person, as we will have to make contact with them first to agree a joint assessment.**

Whilst we don't accept direct referrals by families and parents into the service, we are happy to talk to families to help them access services.

#### **Contact the service**

National Deaf CAMHS (West Midlands)  
Canalside House  
Abbots Street  
Walsall  
West Midlands  
WS3 3AZ  
Telephone 01922 608822  
Fax 01922 607825  
Email [deafcamhs@dwmh.nhs.uk](mailto:deafcamhs@dwmh.nhs.uk)

#### **How do I give feedback about the service?**

If you have a concern, please feel free to speak with a member of the team in the first instance if you wish. Alternatively, the Service Experience Desk (SED) is the central point of contact for all concerns and enquiries, whether these are formal or informal, complaints, compliments or suggestions.

You can contact SED on:

**Tel:** 0300 555 0535 or 01384 325014

**Fax:** 01384 324567

**Email:** [SED@dwmh.nhs.uk](mailto:SED@dwmh.nhs.uk)

**Address:** SED, Second Floor, Trafalgar House, 47-49 King Street, Dudley, DY2 8PS

If you require this leaflet in another language or format such as large print, braille or easy read please contact the communications team on 01384 325022 or email [communication@dwmh.nhs.uk](mailto:communication@dwmh.nhs.uk)



## **Deaf Child and Adolescent Mental Health Services**

### **Information for families**



#### **Leaflet Control**

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### **Who are we?**

The Deaf Child and Adolescent Mental Health Service provides a specialist mental health service for deaf and hearing impaired children with a range of emotional and behavioural problems.

We are a specialist team covering Central England with teams based in Dudley, Nottingham and Oxford which provide access to services as close to home as possible reducing travelling time for children young people and their families.

### **Who is the service for?**

The Deaf Child and Adolescent Mental Health Service can help where the young person, parents, carers or professionals feel that the young person is experiencing mental health difficulties that are affecting their home or school life, such as:

- Depression
- Autism
- Behavioural problems
- Significant communication or coping difficulties at school or home

### **Who do we work with?**

- Children who are deaf or hearing impaired
- Children of deaf or hearing impaired parents
- Families and carers of those young people
- Teachers and education

professionals involved with deaf or hearing-impaired children

- Child and Adolescent Mental Health Service (CAMHS) teams
- A wide range of professionals who support deaf children and their families.

Where a hearing child has a parent who is a British Sign Language (BSL) user, or has a severe or profound hearing loss, we will also consider assessment.

### **What can you expect?**

If we are approached about a child or young person who is having difficulties, we will respond to meet their needs provided we have consent from the family. The type of support we offer can vary depending on the need of the individual, We might meet with the child or young person and their family and any professional providing support.

An assessment of the child/young person's communication skills will be undertaken where appropriate and then during an initial assessment we aim to develop an understanding of why the child or young person may be having problems.

We then arrange a meeting to discuss how different professionals may be able to help and support the child, family and school.

### **For accepted referrals we can offer**

- Assessment of a child's emotional and developmental needs
- Therapeutic support for individuals, families and groups
- Deaf awareness
- Support and advice for the family
- Advice and consultation for teachers, residential care staff and mental health professionals or any professional involved in the care or support of the young person

### **Who's in the team?**

There is a variety of child health professionals in the team including a family mental health support worker, nursing, occupational therapy, psychiatry and psychology.

### **How can I get help?**

If parents or professionals are worried about a young person, there are a number of ways to make contact with us including:

- CAMHS local to your area
- The child's school or teacher for the deaf.
- Their GP
- A social worker or other professional
- Through the National Deaf Children's Society regional representative.