

The Importance of MDT

Deaf CAMHS

The importance of the MDT is well documented in various medical and research contexts such as Cancer care and Community care. The key words and phrases which occur are:-

- Decision-making
- Holistic
- Patient centred

In our presentation we will describe the MDT approach used by National Deaf CAMHS – London, and highlight the perceived advantages.

We will symbolise the team as a wheel of professionals and posit that the child and family are at the hub of the team. EHCP legislation aims to put the child as central to the process of change. Education, health professionals and families need to work in collaboration to facilitate effective change.

We will discuss Deafness in the context of Autism and Autism in the context of Deafness and how this affects our management. We will use one or two recent cases to exemplify.

We will conclude with a word of warning that communication between team members and agencies is vital in order to avoid the possible negative consequence that a child/family may receive many appointments/input from a plethora of different professionals with apparent lack of joint working. The role of the Care Co-ordinator has proved useful in managing this possibility.