

See
what Cued
Speech UK is
saying...



**IMPACT REPORT
2021 - 2022**

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.org.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

CONTENTS

Cued Speech Core Values	p. 3
Aim	p. 4
What is Cued Speech	p. 5
Why we need Cued Speech	p. 6
Where innovation meets need	p. 7
Love reading and story time	p. 8
CSUK innovation	p. 9
Regional advisers: Work Stream O-4	p. 10
Regional Advisers: Working with Families	p. 11
Cued Speech in schools	p. 13
Training Professionals	p. 15
Outcomes report	p. 17
Reaching across continents a case study from Australia	p. 19
Fundraising and publicity - Social Media	p. 21
Fundraising and publicity - Wayne's Swim.....	p. 22
The CSUK Team	Back Page

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CSUK believe that every deaf child:

- Has the right to language and communication
- Has the right to receive a full education
- Has the right to succeed to their maximum potential regardless of disability
- Has the right to be safe



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 language access.
- 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 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

Cued Speech's aim is 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

"It is so important for a parent of a deaf child to have hope and not to have limits. A deaf child can and should be supported to fulfil their potential. Hope for language and literacy is brought to fruition through CS. As parents (of a deaf child) we need to be able to give our children what we can, it takes away the fear and the darkness."



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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.

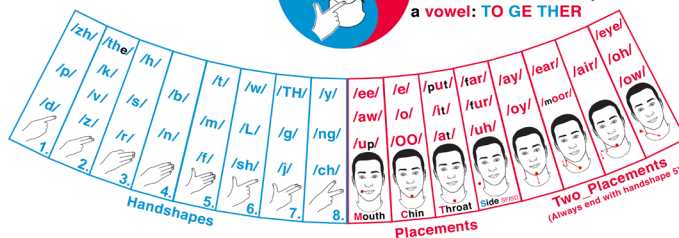
Cued Speech Chart British English

Rule 1
Consonants on their
own: Side placement



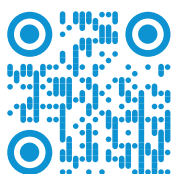
Rule 2
Vowels on their
own: Handshape 5

Rule 3
Consonant followed by
a vowel: **TO GE THER**



WHY WE NEED CUED SPEECH

- ✓ Cued Speech enhances the ability to lip read.
- ✓ 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.
- ✓ With Cued Speech deaf children can achieve age-appropriate reading levels.
- ✓ 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.
- ✓ Cued Speech can be learnt in 20 hours or less
- ✓ Cued Speech enables two-way communication and can easily be used alongside signing
- ✓ 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.
- ✓ Cueing can be used to support the development of good listening skills.
- ✓ Cueing can help the deaf child to pronounce words clearly and correctly.



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.





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WHERE INNOVATION MEETS NEED



Cued Speech Love Reading Project

Language delay can lead to cognitive impairment.

When deaf children are not able to fully access the language of the home, they are often left with many lasting effects: cognitive issues, mental health challenges, and limited literacy are just a few of these. Hall 2017 suggests that, "permanent brain changes may occur when children are not able to access any language fully during their critical early years."

The restrictions and protocols used during the Coronavirus situation have greatly compounded these problems, not least by the use of face masks which removed any chance to lip read and compromised the ability to hear what was spoken. This impacted heavily on the education of deaf children who for example, already achieve on average an entire GCSE grade less than their hearing peers.

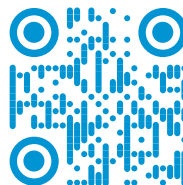
In response to need CSUK have developed:

Love Reading and Nan-in-the-Van

'Nan-in-the-Van,' an early-reader range of online books based on systematic synthetic phonics, is designed to meet the requirements set by the Department of Education

for developing letter-sound links through phonetic awareness. This series, developed specifically with deaf children in mind, includes the character of a deaf boy and others from a range of cultural and ethnic backgrounds. The books are colourful, engaging and vividly illustrated by our own illustrator. They will be the only books developed in this way specifically for deaf children in the UK.

The content will be presented in two visual languages – English, spoken with Cues and text added, and British Sign Language - each delivered by a beautifully designed digital avatar. The books also have two extra sections focusing on highlighting certain important phonemes (matched to the government's own Letters and Sounds programme as used by many UK schools) and a 'keyword breakdown' teaching the sounds and spellings, Cues and signs for certain words from the story.



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

LOVE READING AND STORY-TIME

Integrating deaf children into family routines and encouraging a love of books

"Reading to children has both immediate and far-reaching benefits. Reading together not only improves language skills, literacy, and brain development, It also forges a deeper connection between you and your child." Taken from; Health Benefits of Reading to Children By Stephanie Nicola Medically Reviewed by Jabeen Begum, MD on November 05, 2021

We have had permission from a number of authors to Cue their stories. Over the last year we have made them available for deaf children and their parents as online films. They support story-time and learning to Cue and have helped a number of families with deaf children to access reading while the children were at home.

"His literacy and learning will not be compromised by his deafness, and he will have equal opportunities to live his life to the full like his friends who can hear."

"I take every opportunity to Cue and read to him which means that I am spending valuable time with him. I know that this focused attention is really making a difference to his language development. He is now starting to recognise sounds and can understand that they are related to letters. I show him the letters and he makes the correct sounds, it's amazing. Cued Speech is really helping with both his literacy and his language." Paula tells us about her son H





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CSUK DIGITAL INNOVATION

iCUE

Digital avatar technology (as seen in video games): transliterator Cassie can raise her hand and accurately repeat verbatim a spoken message that her voice-recognition technology has picked up. She uses clear Cueing handshapes and placements, easy to lipread mouth shapes and can include voice if required, which is transmitted discreetly and directly to the user's hearing aids or cochlear implant at a volume to suit them. Subtitles may also be added.

uCUE See it! Cue it! Read it! Write it!

Digital games for all ages to support those learning to use or receive Cued English and build early literacy skills. Designed to take the user through three stages of Cued word recognition and practice opportunities.

Bronze – the introduction of sixty phonetically simple everyday

words. Users are shown how to Cue these words, how they are made up of individual sounds (synthesising) and can practise Cue-reading them to hone their spoken word recognition skills.

Silver – brings the word count up to one hundred and includes everything at the Bronze level with the addition of text and two extra quiz experiences giving users the chance to practise making letter-sound links, encouraging reading and writing skills in addition to Cueing.

Gold – focuses on word manipulation skills, games to encourage users to play with all the 44 speech sounds of English to create ever new words to Cue, read and write.

CSUK have launched the Bronze level of the uCue game available on the app stores, with the other levels to be launched next year.



WORK STREAM 0-4

The number of referrals for this age group for the year 2020 – 2021 has been low across the UK. Covid will have had a significant impact on parents of newly diagnosed deaf babies – as it did on parents of hearing babies. Parents were fearful of their newborns contracting the virus and maintained high levels of isolation throughout 2021. It was a time of considerable anxiety for new parents, and they were less likely to engage with additional interventions. CSUK have taken a more proactive response to this challenge and have devised a unique programme for parents of newly diagnosed deaf babies, called CHOICES.

Referrals are being taken from

Audiology departments and a pathway has been established by Plymouth NHS Trust piloted by Stuart Harris (Senior Paediatric Audiologist) which abides by all GDPR regulations and is easy to put in place.

We have already quadrupled the number of babies referred to CSUK in the first quarter of 2022

Our first CHOICES Programme will be underway in September with many deaf babies already referred.

"Get Language in right from the start."

CSUK are offering a free six week programme to parents of deaf children aged between 0 and 4 years of age.

The course is designed to help parents to navigate and explore the communication and language choices that are available.

You will be able to practice basic skills in Cued Speech and learn some signs, the course will also include:

- Understanding technology such as hearing aids and implants.
- Understanding the importance of early language development
- Understanding your child's audiogram

At the end of the course you will be better able to make an informed decision about how to best meet the individual needs of your child.

The course is delivered in regions across the UK and online from October. We can reimburse your childcare costs.



Communication. We talk about language and communication and how this develops in the early years and what you can do to help your child.

Hearing technology. We give you a chance to discuss the technology that is available and give a hands-on experience of basic 'care and repair'.

Open discussions in a supportive environment. Ask all the questions that you don't have time to ask in appointments.

Information about all the different professionals you will meet and how they can help you.

Cued speech. We give you a taster of how Cued Speech works to support English and a pathway to learn the whole system and support to use it at home.

Emotional well being. We give you a safe space to talk about your feelings and concerns and find support among friends.

Signing. We give parents some basic signs that they can use straight away at home and provide a pathway for further training in BSL.

CUED SPEECH UK CS



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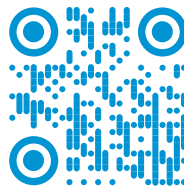
REGIONAL FAMILY ADVISERS

Working with families - Free Family Training and Support

Cued Speech UK knows just how important language is for deaf children. We also know that it is vital that parents are given the right support to be able to confidently provide full language for their deaf children. Which is why we offer FREE support to parents of deaf children across the UK.

We aim to make sure deaf children participate fully in family life and we support parents to achieve all this through Cued Speech. With our FREE training and support, parents receive home visits from our Regional Family Advisers to provide information and CS Training. CSUK have continued to offer a variety of interventions to families during this difficult time

Some staff were furloughed and only had part-time hours from July to October. However, supporting parents was a priority and time was used carefully so that we could still provide interventions for those with the greatest need. For example, we have used both face-to-face interventions and zoom virtual interventions in response to need and circumstance.



**Learn about
family support
and training**

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

"When Kirsti visits she plays with E and Cues to him and tries to engage him in dialogue creating games that encourage language development.

The Charity does a brilliant job, Kirsti is worth her weight in gold, she is clear, patient and empathic." Said Moss.

We also introduced our fabulous family packs containing Cued words, prompt charts, colourful illustrations to support learning the handshapes of CS and a memory stick full of stories and games. Our Regional Family Advisers have continued to meet families online and also face to face again. Families with older children in school benefit from school visits where the professionals around the child also receive Cued Speech training. Work is also done in homes with older children to advance their literacy skills.





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CUED SPEECH IN SCHOOLS

2021-2022

The CSUK lead family adviser has been working in a number of schools this year. For 2 terms Kathy went to Stover school in Devon to teach 2 groups of year 8 – 12 students Cued Speech as part of their curriculum enrichment. The students were excellent and picked up the skills quickly and had lots of questions about deafness and the effects of being deaf.

CSUK have been working at St. Margaret's school in Torquay which has 2 profoundly deaf boys who use BSL. We have been working alongside their CSWs to show them

how to use BSL and Cued Speech together in order to demonstrate how the 2 languages work differently. They have used stories, sports and games to engage the boys in a variety of ways. The staff have said that the visits have inspired them to Cue more and to see the possibilities of what Cueing can do to enhance the learning of English. The boys themselves have become excellent Cue readers and are progressing with their English.

A Higher Learning Teaching Assistant (HLTA) from St. Margaret's in Torquay told us, "We have used CS in all of O's supported literacy lessons so that he can see how the sounds and the sentence are constructed. Using CS and THRASS (a literacy tool) O, aged 9, has bridged the gap and has age-appropriate language and literacy. Cued Speech has been the ladder which has enabled him to access the process of learning to read."

There have been visits to Highweek School in Newton Abbot to support 2 TAs there to learn to Cue for the profoundly deaf child that they support. And we have also worked with the child to support her literacy skills.



Weekly visits have been made to Eggbuckland Primary School in Plymouth who now use Cued Speech every day with all their deaf students and have seen phenomenal results. A TOD says 'CS has been life-changing for E. She can now read and write at an age-appropriate level. CS is the tool that is unlocking English for all the children here.'

CSUK visited Eggbuckland Deaf Education Centre. Each Regional Family Adviser had a group of children to work with and then came together to share what they had learnt at the end of the afternoon.

Parents of E told us, "Learning CS has been amazing! What a wonderful way of making the English language visual! It's helped us to support E with both her language and with beginning to see the relationship between sounds and letters and will impact hugely on her learning and literacy!"





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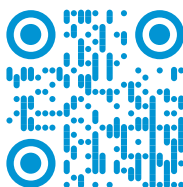
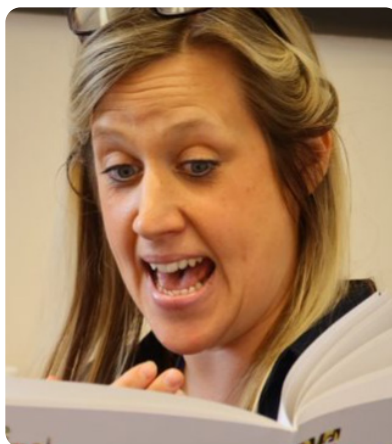
TRAINING OF PROFESSIONALS

We aim to meet the training needs of every individual and service.

We want any professional who approaches us to quickly be able to understand what Cued Speech is and how it can transform deaf children's outcomes for the better. We know it is important that they feel confident to signpost families with deaf children to Cued Speech UK and we want every family to have the chance to make a fully informed decision for meeting their child's language and communication needs.

As well as our website we provide:

- ✓ Online chats to answer any questions
- ✓ Online presentations and introductory talks
- ✓ Group seminars and workshops in person



**Learn about our
online self study
course.**

Use your
smartphone's
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appears.

"I only have positive things to
say about my learning experience with
Cued Speech UK.

Not only have I felt that I received excellent
tuition, but I also felt very supported
throughout - and now actually miss my
classes!"

(Communication Support
Worker)

For those who want to take it further and become Cuers themselves, we provide:

- ✓ Online self-study Cued Speech Foundation Course. This is for complete beginners and will teach you all the basics of how to Cue any word in the English language. Once you've worked through this series of training videos and exercises you will simply need to practise to gain fluency and memorise the system.
- ✓ Online live classes with a tutor – one to one or small groups
- ✓ In person learn-to-Cue workshops

We can train people to exam level and offer two qualifications in Cued Speech Proficiency. Both of the exams can now be taken online.

We also offer regular online sessions to come and practise those Cueing skills and learn the art of Cue reading to each other: it is so useful to experience Cueing from the receiver's perspective.

"How do you explain a word to a deaf child if they don't know the sign or if it's completely abstract?

But with Cued Speech, M can see each word completely and isn't disadvantaged at all."

(Support worker)

About using CS with deaf students:

"I can see that they are so much more interested in English and vocabulary now. Their reading skills are also improving because of this."

(Communication Support Worker)



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OUTCOMES REPORT

We have been able to evidence the outcomes of 318 deaf babies/ children who have benefited directly from the engagement of CS practitioners.

Our work will have helped many more deaf children vicariously via indirect engagement with professionals or through available online CS resources which we have been unable to monitor and evidence. For example, we calculate that training 1 professional will potentially lead to many deaf children receiving CS interventions from that trained professional, which we are unable to monitor.

2021/22

11

**online events
supporting
deaf people
presented at
and attended by
CSUK.**



2021/ 2022

159 Home visits

& 140 Zoom virtual visits delivering our parent and child Cued Speech training and support package.



2021/22 **318** deaf children have been supported through the work of **Cued Speech UK.**



2021/22

14

Schools using
Cued Speech
and 5 directly
supported by CSUK
Regional family
Advisers.



2021/22

78%

of the children
Cued to have
shown greater
confidence.



2021/22

85%

of families
supported by
Cued Speech UK
have reported
positive progress
in their deaf child's
participation.



2021/22

78

playgroup
sessions
delivered for
parents of deaf
children.



A Mum told us, "After 2 sessions I was Cueing to E. E is 27 but has a cognitive and developmental delay and her functional level is equivalent to age 6. In addition to this, she is partially sighted. I Cued my Strictly Come Dancing annuals to her which she loved, she was so animated and excited. It was lovely to see the change in her as she can be very anxious and insecure."





REACHING ACROSS CONTINENTS

A case study from Australia.

Case Study 2022

Marie and Beatrice.

I spoke to Marie in March 2022 about her experience of using Cued Speech with her daughter B who lost her hearing after having meningitis at two-and-a-half years old. Pre-meningitis B had had excellent communication skills for her age with a good vocabulary and use of sentences and grammatical structures; her reading was equivalent to that of a five-and-a-half year old. B is the youngest child of five siblings. Marie was recommended Cued Speech as a phonetical guide to lip-reading. Marie looked on the website and was particularly interested in deaf people who following the use of CS could use and access language. Marie felt that it was a priority for B not to lose the language that she had already learnt and realised that she could quickly access the sounds visually that she was missing acoustically through CS. Marie has found that if B sees it she says it, for example she was trying to say Mum but was actually saying Bab, CS helped B to access the correct sound including the 'ling' sounds.

Marie started to Cue to B as soon as she could, accessing the CSUK online course as well as having regular online sessions with Kathy. Previously she had tried to learn sign language, which is still used, but Marie realises that it doesn't give B full language names and descriptions so that the family use a blend of CS and signs. B expressively Cues which helps the family to understand the words that she is trying to say, for example a few weeks ago she was trying to say Toy Shop but it was unclear until she Cued it to her sister, who has also learnt to Cue. B is also clear that she wants to say Daddy and not Dad and Cues Dad ee, even though she doesn't always say it accurately.

Marie said; "The difficulty is that not enough people can Cue and it is not used in Australia. Deaf child need to be immersed in a full rich language. B is a communicator. Even though she is a deaf child she wants to know everybody's name. She is curious about everything. It is sometimes heart-breaking to see her frustration at not to be able to communicate fluently."



Find out about learning to Cue

www.cuedspeech.co.uk/learning-to-cue/

email info@cuedspeech.co.uk

or call 01803 712853

M continued; "When I first learnt to Cue I worried that I made mistakes and then I thought to myself, children often make mistakes when they are learning to speak and it's not the end of the world, they have plenty of opportunity to get it right as long as they hear it or see it enough. So I have persevered with my Cueing. My daughter M is brilliant at Cueing to B but it is a big responsibility for a 13 year old child.

We have been so blessed and grateful to have Kathy, she has helped me to put one foot in front of the other and to carry on. She has been like a lighthouse, lighting the way forward and has given us greater understanding of the deaf world, I had so many questions and so much fear. Kathy held on and pulled us back to living in the world, not just the deaf world. I have been able to talk about so much which has been as important and vital as learning to Cue. I think that every child has a right to language and every parent has a right to choose and I don't understand why there isn't more research to support Cued Speech. Even where a deaf child has cochlear implants, Cued speech is needed. Without the option of using CS families are deprived of choice.

Parents need to be empowered to give their child the very best for a successful future where their child is not socially disadvantaged. It is so important for a parent of a deaf child to have hope and not to have limits. A deaf child can and should be supported to fulfil their potential. Hope for language and literacy is brought to fruition through CS. As a parent we need to be able to give our children what we can. It takes away the fear and the darkness: Kathy gave us light and hope.





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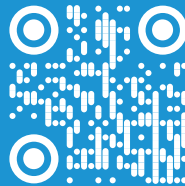
DONATE TO CUED SPEECH UK

Everyone at Cued Speech UK works very hard to make sure that families with deaf children receive our training and support for **FREE**. 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.



WAYNE'S SWIM

- the final three months and Mick Mooney the Marathon Man.

Wayne's final three months saw late night swims at the end of long shifts, a two-hour drive to the coast in order to get the swim done around a family wedding and a final push to get more funds before the final swim. Cate Calder joined Wayne for a few swims and made a film to herald Wayne's achievement and to promote the fund-raising efforts. The final day was one to remember as a large group of supporters turned out to join Wayne for his final swim to complete the 365-sea swim challenge. It was a joyful occasion and more money donated too. Since his swim others have been inspired to get into the cold water.... even our own Louise!

We were incredibly lucky to be able to enter an individual for the London Marathon in October 2021.

Mick Mooney offered to do the run for us and travelled up to and stayed in London in order to compete. He competed under very difficult conditions with a broken toe and having just recovered from a very nasty virus. Not only did he step up to the physical challenge, Mick also managed to raise £500.

Mick's association with CSUK has led to other opportunities. Mick is a Physical Education teacher at Stover School in Newton Abbot and he has enabled us to meet with staff and children at the School. Kathy Kenny, our Regional Adviser in the South West was able to visit the school on a weekly basis in Autumn of last year and delivered Cued Speech workshops to a group of young people.





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Carly Simpson
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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

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