

If you have any questions, queries, or require more information, please contact the department:

Telephone: (01792) 703854

Monday to Friday (excluding bank holidays)

8.30 am to 4.30 pm

An out-of-hours answering machine is available

Nasendoscopy

The Welsh Centre for Cleft Lip and Palate

Speech and Language Therapy

Morrison Hospital

Swansea

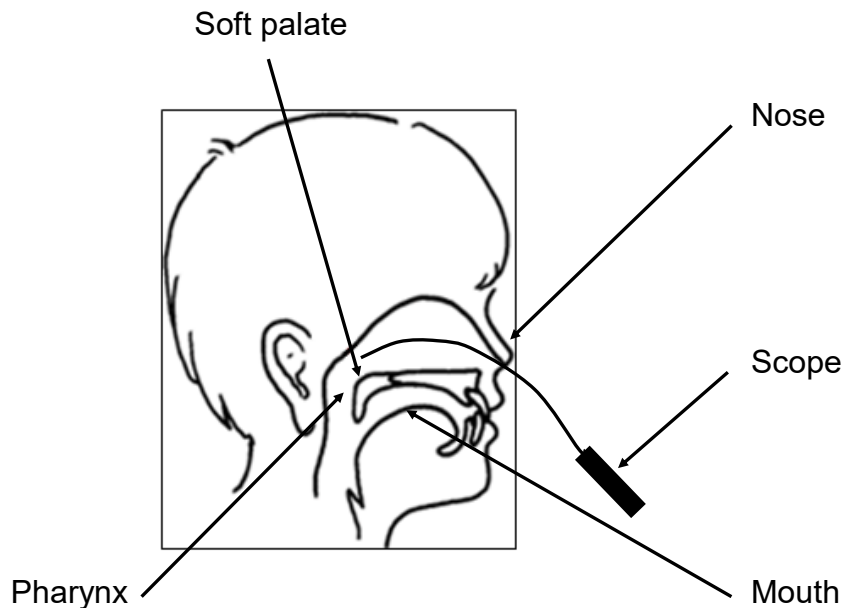
www.wales.nhs.uk/cleft-team

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What is a nasendoscopy?

Nasendoscopy is an investigation of the soft palate (soft part at the back of the roof of the mouth) and how it moves. This leaflet has been designed to help you understand the process a little better. A nasendoscopy involves passing a very small scope (smaller than a drinking straw) into the nostril. The scope is attached to a video camera that allows the clinicians to look at how well the soft palate is moving whilst talking.

It can also show if the pharynx (back of the throat) moves forward and inward, the action needed to help stop air escaping out of the nose during speech. All of these movements are recorded and you can watch them after the investigation.



What will happen at the appointment?

The investigation will be carried out by the cleft surgeon and a speech and language therapist. First, a local anaesthetic is sprayed into one or both nostrils, which will make the nose feel numb and may taste bitter. The small scope, which has a bright light at the end, is then placed into the nostril and passed gently backwards. This does not hurt. Once the scope is in the correct position, just above the palate, the therapist will ask for some words and sounds to be said.

Parents or family can be in the room and may stand or sit next to children. The procedure is recorded and you can watch the investigation on a monitor after the examination. The cleft surgeon and speech and language therapist will explain the findings and discuss the next stage of intervention with you. This may be surgery and/or further speech and language therapy.

How long does the investigation take?

The examination should not take more than five minutes, but the appointment will last about 20 minutes to allow time for discussion.

What should I do if I cannot attend the appointment?

Please contact the department as soon as possible (address and telephone number overleaf) to let us know. We will gladly arrange another appointment for you. Please also let us know about any change of address or telephone number.