

# Communication and Relationships Team

## Speech and Language

### What can you expect from the service area?

- A joint National Health Service (NHS) / Learner Support approach to supporting nursery schools across the borough is in place in order to promote early assessment, identification and support through the WellComm programme. Training, drop-ins, school visits and advice and support.
- A locum speech & language therapist provides support to Communication Autism Resource Education (CARE) provisions to pupils with specific speech and/or language needs that lie outside of their Autistic Spectrum Disorder (ASD) diagnoses.
- Locum speech & language therapist provision is also available to a small group of statemented pupils.
- The locum speech & language therapist also provides support to a caseload of pupils in mainstream classes who have significant specific speech and/or language difficulties. Some of these pupils who require multiple therapy sessions each week are in receipt of shared support between Inclusion and NHS Speech And Language Therapy (SALT).
- The team delivers NHS speech and language programmes to a small number of individual pupils with significant specific speech and/or language difficulties in schools across the borough.
- The team provides demonstrations to schools as to how to deliver an NHS speech & language programme and monitors how the pupils are progressing.
- The service provides a wide range of training packages.
- The service provides advice and support to schools related to the management of pupils with speech and language difficulties including differentiation
- The service provides assistance in facilitating Person Centred Planning (PCP) reviews
- Specific support pre/during/post transition periods, to advise new settings and ensure provisions are in place and working effectively.
- The service provides ancillary support.

## What does the graduated response look like and how can you access the service's expertise?

- Provision is delivered across the three tiers of universal, targeted and specialist.
- The main emphasis at the universal tier is to build capacity within schools. The service achieves this by providing a range of professional development opportunities and by providing advice and support through school based visits relating to issues around the support and management of pupils with speech and language difficulties including differentiation.
- The main emphasis at Targeted tier is to ensure that when a pupil is identified with a speech and/or language difficulty, interventions are put in place which are additional to and different from the school's curriculum. This is achieved by the provision of additional advice and guidance, some of which can include; observation, advice regarding Specific Measurable Achievable Realistic Timely (SMART) targets, recommendations for more individualised programmes/resources; advice regarding delivery of a programme from NHS SALT, assistance in facilitating a PCP review for a particular pupil and discussion to determine if an onward referral to NHS SALT is appropriate
- The main emphasis at the specialist tier is to enable schools to provide more specific and specialist support to pupils with significant speech and/or language needs. This is achieved by the following:
  - The referral being taken and discussed at the monthly Communication Forum. This is a joint meeting between Inclusion Speech and Language Service and SALT where referrals are considered and triaged and it is the only pathway in Bridgend for school age pupils to access NHS SALT assessment/support.
  - Input by the Inclusion speech & language therapist in CARE settings.
  - Outreach provision for a small number of pupils which has been requested by NHS SALT.
  - Provision of ancillary support.
  - Support, guidance and demonstrations to schools who are delivering NHS SALT programmes to pupils.