

Who might see or assess my child?

Depending on the nature of a child's difficulty, the school may refer to either

- EPIC Speech and Language Therapy Service
- NHS Speech and Language Therapy Service

What happens then?

- ▶ After an NHS Speech and Language Assessment an NHS SALT may see your child in clinic for a block of direct therapy or they may write a plan of activities to be followed at school and at home that they will review regularly.
- ▶ If an EPIC SALT assessment shows specific areas of need, targets will be set for your child and a **SALT APDaR plan** written (**A**ssess, **P**lan, **D**o and **R**eview). This will also include strategies and any additional help or resources that may be needed. The **SALT APDaR** will be reviewed regularly (usually three times per year.)

What Happens next?

If progress is made and concerns no longer exist your child will stop having a therapy plan or APDaR plan. Your child's class teacher will continue to monitor their progress carefully.

If difficulties continue, even with the additional support, the school may refer to external agencies for advice and support. This will be discussed with you and your permission will be asked for us to do so.

How to help at home

- Keep us informed of any changes
- Read or share books
- Play games
- Attempt the homework sent home
- Talk with your child as much as possible

If you have any concerns about your child please make an appointment to talk to:

- **Your child's class teacher**
- **Ms Harrison**, the school's SENDCo
- **Mrs Burningham**, Family Support Worker
- **Mrs Matthew**, Headteacher

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Farndon Fields
Primary School



Speech and Language
Therapy Services

Speech
And
Language
Therapy

Parent
Information Leaflet

What is Speech and Language Therapy?

Speech and Language Therapy provides treatment, support and care for children who have difficulties with speech, language, communication. They can also support children who have difficulties with eating, drinking and swallowing.

Almost everything we do involves speech, language and/or communication.

Everyday tasks, learning, sorting out problems, having a conversation, getting a job, making friends and having fun all rely on our ability to communicate.

Being able to say what you want to say and to understand what other people are saying is the most important skill we need in life. Yet many people take communication for granted.

Some children and young people have difficulty communicating with others; they have speech, language and communication needs - often referred to as 'SLCN'.

Speech and Language Therapy can support children with these difficulties

Speech refers to:

- Speaking with a clear voice, in a way that makes speech interesting and meaningful
- Speaking without hesitating too much or without repeating words or sounds
- Being able to make sounds clearly so people can understand what you say

Language refers to talking and understanding:

- Joining words together into sentences, stories and conversations
- Knowing and choosing the right words to explain what you mean
- Making sense of what people say

Communication refers to how we interact with others:

- Using language or gestures in different ways, for example to have a conversation or to give someone directions
- Being able to consider other people's point of view
- Using and understanding body language and facial expressions, such as: knowing when someone is bored, being able to listen to and look at people when having a conversation, knowing how to take turns and to listen as well as talk - knowing how close to stand next to someone

Children may have difficulties in one or more of these areas.

How does school identify and support children who are experiencing Speech and Language difficulties?

- **All children are screened for SALT difficulties when they start at Farndon Fields. Children may also be screened at other times if school or parents / carers have concerns,**
- **In addition, all children are observed and assessed by their class teacher. Children who are experiencing difficulties identified, monitored and supported through adaptations to Quality First Teaching.**
- **At Farndon Fields we have a Dyslexia and Communication Friendly Learning Environment that is regularly audited.**
- **Teachers will share any concerns at meetings with parents / carers.**
- **Strategies and advice will be given to you to support your child.**
- **If concerns persist, teachers inform the SENDCo / SALT Lead**
- **You will be asked to take your child for a hearing and eye test (both free).**