

Speech and Language Therapy Offer to Schools

Academic Year 2025 - 2026

The school age Speech and Language Therapy service is delivered within a Balanced System® framework. Link Speech and Language Therapists (SaLT) are allocated to work with schools for a set number of days across an academic year.

Link SaLTs work with families and schools to develop and deliver provision for speech, language and communication (SLC) at a universal, targeted and specialist level across the five strands of the Balanced System® (families, environment, workforce identification, intervention).

Link SaLT time allocated to work with a school includes all face-to-face contacts and clinical admin time for things such as talking to parents, analysing assessments, and writing clinical casenotes and reports.

Schools with a Link SaLT allocated to work with them will receive the following offer:

- The Link SaLT will attend at least 1 **multi-agency planning (MAP)** meeting per academic year.
- The Link SaLT will meet with the SENCO to discuss the **Working Together Agreement**, complete **Whole School Communication Plan** and agree priorities for the academic year.
- The Link SaLT can support the school to develop **universal provision** for SLC, for example general advice to class teachers or parents/carers through conversations in school, training for school staff around identifying SLCN or creating a communication friendly environment.
- The Link SaLT can support the school to develop and deliver **targeted provision** for SLC, for example modelling groups, meeting with teachers or TAs to problem solve, spending time in class to give ideas around how a child's SLCN can be supported throughout their day.
- The Link SaLT can deliver **specialist provision** for SLC, for example assessing children, delivering therapy, and contributing to Education, Health and Care Needs Assessment Requests.
- SENCOs, school staff and parents/carers can contact the **SaLT advice line** to for advice on 0121 466 6231.

Schools without a Link SaLT to work with them at this time will receive the following offer:

- A SaLT will attend 1 **multi-agency planning (MAP)** meeting per academic year.

- SENCOs can request a **30 minute virtual advice meeting per term** with a SaLT to support with developing universal and targeted provision and to discuss children on the Speech and Language Therapy waiting list.
- SENCOs can **e-mail the locality School Age Coordinator (SACO)** with general queries.
- SENCOs, school staff and parents/carers can contact the **Speech and Language Therapy advice line** for advice on 0121 466 6231.
- Children can be referred to Speech and Language Therapy by school completing the **Mainstream Schools Consent Form** and e-mailing it to the locality school age coordinator. Children will be added to a waiting list to be seen for an **assessment in clinic** during the school holidays, whilst the school remains unallocated.
- Children will be seen for an assessment to contribute to **Education, Health and Care Needs Assessment Requests**.