

Speech and Language Therapy Service Update

SENCo Forum – October 2024

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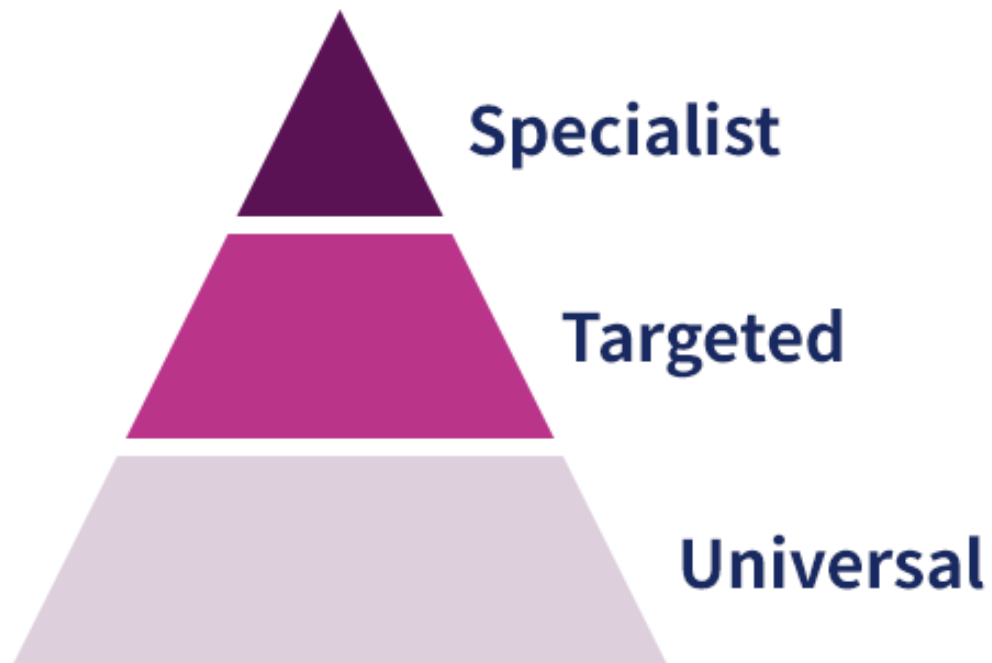
Summer/September update

- Offered over 120 children their initial assessments over the summer holidays. KS2 and secondary aged children were prioritised. Note – review reports as some may have an opt-in for a meeting/advice session for this half-term.
- Have welcomed new staff into the team; Ellie, Taya, Sophie with a further Therapist to join in November
- Waiting list project was felt to be a success – identified over 170 children that no longer needed direct support from our service (resolved, moved out of area, significant improvements made)

Summer/September update – cont.

- Worked on our new referral processes
- Created speech and language group intervention pack resources
- Created new intervention pathways for functional communication children – provide staff with coaching and support around Intensive Interaction, People Games and AAC
- Continued challenge – there still is up to a 15 month wait but we are hopeful the wait times will come down gradually over the next academic year

Reminder – background for referral changes



Large proportion of SaLT time was going into targeted provision i.e., language assessment & modelling sessions, speech sound delays – **55% of the waiting list was Key Stage 1 speech and language children.**

Reducing targeted support should therefore allow more timely support for specialist provision i.e., communication assessment & intervention, EHCP assessment and transition children, significant speech sound disorders, KS2 language assessment, children at risk of exclusion.

Additional capacity would also allow for more universal support – training, coaching, informal advice.

Referral Process

1. Direct Referral Route

- ✓ Non-speaking or minimally-speaking children
- ✓ Eating and Drinking concerns
- ✓ Stammering

Specific referral forms found here:

<https://www.cpft.nhs.uk/speech-and-language-therapy-referrals>

**Peterborough Children's Speech and Language
Therapy Referral form for:**

**Non-speaking or Minimally Speaking Children and Young
People (Reception aged – 18 years)**

Please complete all fields; incomplete forms will have to be returned.

Name of child:		DOB:	Gender:	
NHS Number:		Date of referral:		
Parent's/Carer's email address (needed to notify acceptance of referral):				
Address:				
Telephone:			Mobile:	
Ethnicity:	Religion:	Language/s:	Interpreter needed Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/>	
Main carer:				
Relationship with child:				
Other carers with parental responsibility: Address if different:				
GP Surgery:				
Is the child/young person a Looked After Child, on a CIN or CP plan? <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No If yes, please provide more details:				

2. RFI Discussion Meetings: Speech and Language Children

Speech & EYFS – Year 4 Language children:

- ❖ Screen and complete 12 weeks of intervention (ensuring to record progress)
- ❖ Ensure parent/carers complete the 'Consent for RFI Discussion Meeting Form'
- ❖ Email to service the following; screen (pre & post), intervention record/progress tracker and parents/carer consent form
- ❖ Admin will register child and then send you a link to book onto a virtual meeting with a Therapist (15 mins slot) to discuss (might not be your Link Therapist)
- ❖ Therapist will provide advice & either recommend the next step as child to continue with school-based support only or action a referral into the service.

Yr 5 & 6 Language children – same as above – but 12 weeks of intervention is not required, although Therapist will ask what support is already in place in the classroom

All information, forms & screeners are at: <https://www.cpft.nhs.uk/speech-and-language-therapy-referrals>

12 weeks of intervention

Why?:

- Many children have **transient** language and/or speech sound delays and with the right support in place will make progress to close the gap
- Encourages **early intervention** – particularly for EYFS & Year 1 children
- Helps to **identify** which children are more likely to have ongoing speech & language needs & therefore for differential diagnosis (risk factors for persistent speech sound disorders and Developmental Language Disorder is limited progress with intervention)
- Ensures the **right children** are referred into SaLT – less children on waiting list = children get seen in a timelier manner, more capacity = more robust specialist support from the service & also ability to expand universal support such as training etc.

12 weeks of intervention

How?:

- a) Access a subscribed language package e.g., Language Link, Wellcomm, TalkBoost, NELI or speech sound package e.g., Speech Link

- b) Access to one our service's language or speech sound intervention groups (these can also be tailored for 1:1 support) – please see at:
<https://www.cpft.nhs.uk/speech-and-language-therapy-training>

- Note: Please see our updated speech and language screens for support*

- c) Implementation of specific language activities e.g., Colourful Semantics, Language for Thinking, Black Sheep Press Packs.

!Ensure to record sessions completed & note progress

Key reminders

- Access our toolkit: [Speech and Language Therapy Toolkit | CPFT NHS Trust](#)
- Review our new group intervention packs: [Training for Professionals - Children's Speech and Language Therapy | CPFT NHS Trust](#)
- Contact your Link Therapist for any questions/queries via the service email address: cpm-tr.SLTmailforparents@nhs.net