



Central and  
North West London  
NHS Foundation Trust



**Milton Keynes  
Speech and Language  
Therapy Service for  
school-aged children**

Parent information leaflet



*Wellbeing for life*

# What are Speech, Language and Communication Needs (SLCN)?

Up to 10% of school aged children may have difficulty with either making themselves understood or in understanding others. This could be through problems in speaking clearly, learning new words, building sentences, understanding what is being said, or in using language to interact with others.

Children with SLCN face difficulties in school as most learning is based on the understanding and use of language e.g. learning to read and write, understanding what the teacher is saying or remembering what they have been asked to do by the teacher and doing it. They may also have difficulty interacting with others.

Schools have a responsibility to support children with SLCN to develop their language and communication skills so that they are able to learn and make friendships. Speech and Language Therapists work closely with schools to advise and support them to meet your child's needs.



# How does the Speech and Language Service to Schools work?

The SLT Service provides training to schools to enable them to identify and meet the needs of children with mild to moderate difficulties through good quality classroom teaching and group interventions.

Research has shown that children do best when the teaching is targeted correctly and the classroom staff know which strategies to effectively use on a daily basis to help children learn successfully.

Each school in Milton Keynes has a named therapist who works with them to support children with more severe and specific SLCN.

This support takes the form of specialist assessment, consultations, modelling interventions and advising on specific strategies for the classroom to enable your child to learn and join in with others.

Schools and the SLT Service share the aim of developing the learning, participation, self-esteem, and independence of children with SLCN. We work closely with the specialist teachers in the Inclusion and Intervention Service and this service will often take the lead in supporting children with Autism and other Social Communication Difficulties.

The SLT's role is to **identify** your child's needs and **support** the school to implement advice. Some children may benefit from specific interventions that are delivered by the school and/or the SLT team and this is outlined in your child's Education, Health and Care Plan or in the SLT report and recommendations following assessment.

# What should I do if I am concerned about my child's speech, language or communication?

Speak to your child's class teacher and the school's Special Educational Needs Coordinator (SENCo) to discuss your concerns. They will be able to advise you on what needs to happen next.

All schools have had training in the use of the First Assess Communication Tool (FACT) and if there are concerns in school the class teacher and SENCo can use this to assess your child.

The FACT provides advice to schools about strategies and interventions which can be used in the classroom and in group work to develop spoken language skills.

If your child is presenting with more severe SLCN, the school SENCo may need to ask for advice and support planning from the SLT Service.

In some circumstances, particularly for advice on learning, it is more appropriate that advice is sought from another agency such as the Inclusion and Intervention Team, which is a team from Milton Keynes Council of specialist teachers and inclusion workers.



# How will I know what has been advised by the SLT Service?

The Service will provide a written record of involvement relating to your child.

We know that you may have been very involved in your child's SLT sessions if your child was seen by the preschool service. When children go to school, they are seen in school so that the SLT can

identify what your child does well and what they need support with in the classroom.

You are welcome to request to meet the SLT at school and can always phone them on the contact number given if you have any concerns.

# How will information about my child be shared with others?

Records of involvement will be shared with the education professionals working with your child.

SLT records are also kept on an electronic shared system, which all health professionals involved in your child's care will have access to.

Keeping children safe is an important part of our job. If there are any safety concerns about your child the SLT may need to inform the Trust Safeguarding Nurse and this can be done without your permission in certain circumstances.



# Tell us we're listening

We aim to provide the best possible service and welcome positive feedback. Tell us what you think at [www.cnwl.nhs.uk/feedback](http://www.cnwl.nhs.uk/feedback)

If you are unhappy with the service received then please speak to the Service Lead in the first instance via the administration team on 01908 725299. If your concerns are not resolved then you can contact the Patient Support Service on 033 0134799.

## Contact details

Speech and Language Therapy Service  
Eaglestone Health Centre  
Standing Way, Eaglestone,  
Milton Keynes  
MK6 5AZ

Tel 01908 725299





This document is also available in other languages, large print, Braille, and audio format upon request. Please email **communications.cnwl@nhs.net**

هذه الوثيقة متاحة أيضاً بلغات أخرى والأحرف الطباعية الكبيرة وبطريقة برايل للمكفوفين وبصيغة سمعية عند الطلب

### **Arabic**

این مدرک همچنین بنا به درخواست به زبانهای دیگر، در چاپ درشت و در فرمت صوتی موجود است.

### **Farsi**

এই ডকুমেন্ট অন্য ভাষায়, বড় প্রিন্ট আকারে, ব্রেল এবং অডিও টেপ আকারেও অনুরোধ পাওয়া যায়

### **Bengali**

Dokumentigaan waxaa xitaa lagu heli karaa luqado kale, daabacad far waa-wayn, farta indhoolaha (Braille) iyo hab dhegaysi ah markii la soo codsado.

### **Somali**

Mediante solicitação, este documento encontra-se também disponível noutras línguas, num formato de impressão maior, em Braille e em áudio.

### **Portuguese**

நீங்கள் கேட்டுக்கொண்டால், இந்த ஆவணம் வேறு மொழிகளிலும், பெரிய எழுத்து அச்சிலும் அல்லது ஒலிநாடா வடிவிலும் அளிக்கப்படும்.

### **Tamil**

Este documento también está disponible y puede solicitarse en otros idiomas, letra grande, braille y formato de audio.

### **Spanish**

Dokument ten jest na życzenie udostępniany także w innych wersjach językowych, w dużym druku, w alfabecie Braille'a lub w formacie audio.

### **Polish**

આ દસ્તાવેજ વિનંતી કરવાથી બીજી ભાષાઓ, મોટા છાપેલા અક્ષરો અથવા ઓડિઓ રચનામાં પણ મળી રહેશે.

### **Gujarati**

Be belge istenirse, başka dillerde, iri harflerle, Braille ile (görme engelliler için) ve ses kasetinde de temin edilebilir.

### **Turkish**