

Speech, Language and Communication Needs (SLCN)

At Girlington Primary School we recognise that the development of speech, language and communication skills is a fundamental part of a child's development. Staff have been trained in communication and language development using Elklan principles. This training and support is reviewed as part of the school's monitoring and evaluation cycle. The whole school staff have been trained by the SENDCo and the school's commissioned speech and language therapist.

There is a whole school speech, language and communication curriculum development plan which identifies five key areas of focus. The plan is split into chronological ages and supports staff to identify and plan appropriate to ensure that speech, language and communication underpins all areas of the curriculum.

All children are screened using WellComm on entry into nursery and reception. Intervention is then planned which could be 1:1 work, small group work or work in provision.

Language targets are identified on weekly planning and Children's individual All About Me.

Children are re-screened at key points to ensure targets are still appropriate and good progress is being made.

The speech and language therapist is Seona Bailey and she works in school every other Wednesday. She works very closely with the SENDCo and EYFS Assistant Head to ensure that the needs of pupils with speech, language and communication needs are met across the school. There are a number of ways in which Seona works with the school and the staff, including:

- Contributing to the development of skills and competency of staff and how to support the children with their speech and language needs.
- Liaising with parents as appropriate
- Working with parents and their child to help them to implement specific strategies, for example vreve therapy
- The diagnosis and assessment of specific communication difficulties to inform intervention planning
- Facilitating therapy programmes, including speech, language and communication groups in school
- Providing therapy for identified children
- Developing intervention plans and monitoring targets
- Promoting strategies to support all children with their speech and language development
- Liaising with education and other health professionals

Thamina Shaikh is a speech and language therapy assistant who works alongside Seona. She carried out the WellComm intervention in nursery. The aim

is to promote and develop communication skills in all children. Thamina monitors and supports the intervention programmes once they are in place.