

Welcome

Hello schools! We hope you had a nice Summer break.

We have been developing resources over the summer holidays. For example, 'Go Grammar', Maths and exam preparation groups. We'd love feedback from school staff on these and future developments. Please email Marie-Therese.Worthington@gstt.nhs.uk to register your interest or for more information.

If you are a member of school staff, you can sign up to have the Schools Newsletter sent directly to your Inbox. Here's the link to the form:
<https://goo.gl/forms/zhimFANrt971Qd0B3>

Have you thought about...?

- ✓ sending new staff members on our training (see brochure, details on page 2)
- ✓ your Autumn term planning meeting and completing the School Agreement with your allocated SLT
- ✓ allocating time in advance with teaching staff for speech and language therapy interventions

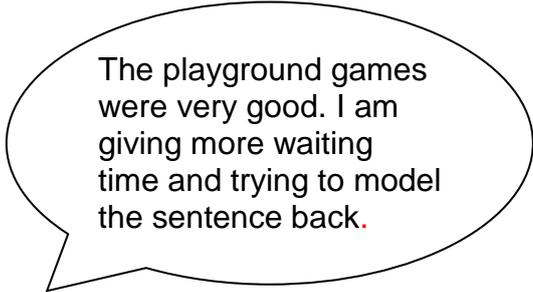
What to do if you are concerned about speech, language or communication skills

1. Ask the class teacher to fill in the teacher checklist for children in primary:
<http://www.evelinalondon.nhs.uk/our-services/community/community-speech-and-language-therapy/referrals.aspx>. For secondary school, please refer to the 'What's typical talk at secondary?' poster and note down concerns:
https://www.thecommunicationtrust.org.uk/media/1608/secondary_milestone_poster_-_final.pdf.
2. Discuss these concerns with your allocated SLT to agree on what the next steps should be: advice, targeted group or referral.

Sharing good practice

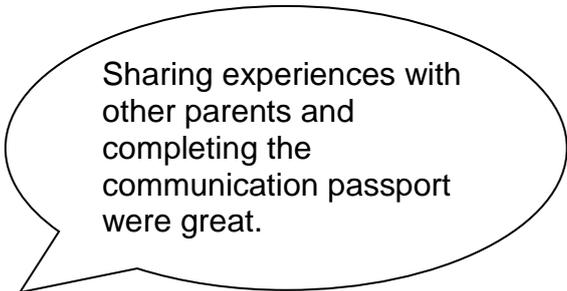
Summer Transition groups

Over the summer, we have been busy supporting transitions at different stages of children and young people's school journey:



The playground games were very good. I am giving more waiting time and trying to model the sentence back.

- Ready, Steady, Reception – 51 children attended the groups which ran in our Lambeth & Southwark Early Years SLT service.



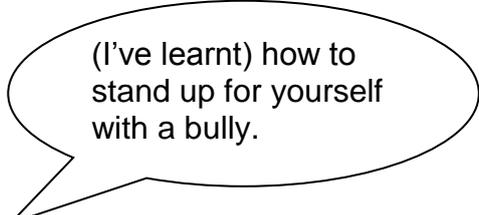
Sharing experiences with other parents and completing the communication passport were great.

- Smooth Transitions – 45 parents attended a parent workshop.



I liked all the activities and all the support. I have made a best friends.

- Afasic Secondary Starters – 8 students attended this group.



(I've learnt) how to stand up for yourself with a bully.

- Ready, Set, Secondary! – this group has continued to be popular in schools.

Impact of our service

Targeted groups—Summer Term 2017

- The most popular targeted group was the Terrific Talkers.
- 75% of pupils made progress in the targeted area in their language group.
- Teaching staff also reported children improved in their turn taking and confidence.

Universal work—Summer Term 2017

- 13 schools took up the offer of in-school training sessions. Supporting SCLN was the most popular topic. 86% of the evaluation forms indicated that staff reported an increase of knowledge/ skills/ confidence after attending the training sessions.
- 5 schools took up the offer of Parent Drop Ins and 100% of evaluation forms indicated parents felt their concerns had been addressed in these sessions with the school therapist and that they felt more confident in understanding the next steps for their child.

Communication is everyone's business

Good communication is the gateway to learning, friendships, academic achievement and success at work (Communication Trust).

Top Tips

1. Use the Communication Supporting Classroom Observation Tool to identify how communication friendly your classroom is.
2. Sign up for **No Pens Wednesday** on 4th October. However, you can run this day whenever suits your school best.

Speak to your allocated SLT for more information and support with this.

Upcoming training

October 2017

- Identifying and supporting SLCN in KS1
- Identifying and supporting SLCN in KS2
- Lego Therapy workshop
- Makaton Taster Session
- How to run targeted groups in schools to develop speech, language and communication – also in November

November 2017

- Identifying and supporting SLCN in secondary school

See our brochure for more details and the application form!

<http://www.evelinalondon.nhs.uk/resources/our-services/community/community-speech-and-language-therapy/sandl-training-for-professionals.pdf>

Involving parents

Working to help parents understand the essential role they play in developing their children's communication skills is a key part of cracking communication in your school!



Here are some top tips you can share with parents to support their child's communication at home and link in with No Pens Wednesday:

- Put aside time each day for talking together
- Use comments and prompts to keep the conversation going

Please see the Communication Trust website for more information:

<https://thecommunicationtrust.org.uk/projects/no-pens-day-wednesday/no-pens-day-wednesday-materials/information-for-engaging-parents/>

website: www.evelinalondon.nhs.uk/communityspeechandlanguage

facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/EvelinaLondonSLT/> 

Next newsletter coming to you in... November 2017