



Working With families

We are able to offer workshops for parents of young children. These are based on the Elklan 'Lets Talk with Special Children' programme which helps parents and their children communicate more effectively.



There is a close liaison with other professionals through clinics and assessment services based at CHCS. Also with input for the oral-motor skills needed for speech, eating, drinking and saliva control.

- Combined clinic for ENT/Oral difficulties
- Videofluoroscopy
- Nutrition Service
- Dental and Palatal Training Therapy (PTT)
- Specialist Communication, Access, and Mobility Potential Assessment (SCAMP)
- Functional Vision
- Dietician
- Joint Surgical Clinic
- Eating and Drinking Management Service
- Speech & Language Specialist Assessment (SALSA)
- Acquired Brain Injury (ABI)
- Assessment Outreach

Contact Details:

Speech and Language Therapy Department

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Speech and Language Therapy



Chailey Heritage Clinical Services

The Speech and Language Therapy Department is involved in the assessment, diagnosis and management of communication, speech and language, social skills, oral skills, eating and drinking difficulties and saliva control.

The children and young people at Chailey Heritage School use a Total Communication Approach. They are encouraged to communicate using facial expressions, body language, vocalisations, speech and alternative and augmentative methods of communication such as signing (Signalong), the Chailey Communication System which uses pictures, symbols or words, and/or a Voice Output Communication Aid (VOCA).

As part of the multi professional work, Speech and Language Therapists are involved with a variety of services including SCAMP (Specialist Communication, Access, and Mobility Potential assessment), the nutrition service, functional vision, ENT/Oral-Motor and dental clinic.

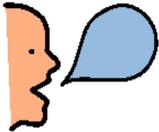
What does our work involve?



Language Development

An essential part of our role is to assess the students' understanding and use of language and guide their development.

Speech



All students are encouraged to use their voice to communicate. Specific programmes are used to help those students who are developing their speech.

Social use of language



This concentrates on the skills needed to communicate with one another, for example, listening, eye contact, turn taking and initiating a conversation.

Oral Skills



Speech and Language Therapists work towards developing the students' lip, tongue and jaw movements with breath support and voice co-ordination.

Saliva control



Saliva control is assessed by a multi-professional team at the combined ENT/Oral motor difficulties clinic at Chailey Heritage Clinical Services where treatment options will be discussed with the child and family.

Eating and Drinking



The Speech and Language Therapists are part of the team which helps students develop their eating and drinking skills. This is important to ensure adequate growth, good nutrition and safe eating and drinking.

Alternative and Augmentative Communication (AAC)

AAC is the term used to describe methods of communication which can be used to supplement the more usual methods of speech and writing when these are impaired.

- AAC may include unaided systems such as signing and gesture as well as aided techniques ranging from picture charts to computer technology.
- Touch, sound or smell cues and objects of reference may be used to give children information, particularly when they have an additional visual impairment.
- AAC can be a way to help someone understand as well as a means of expression. (ref Communication Matters, 'What is AAC?')

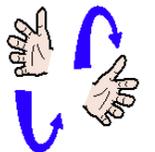
The Chailey Communication System (CCS)

The CCS is a communication system developed originally for students with complex physical and/or sensory disabilities. It offers a wide vocabulary arranged in categories. It is a communication system that can be used in the form of a chart, book or on software for a communication aid.



Signalong

This is the sign supported system used at Chailey Heritage School. Key words are signed, which helps students focus their attention and understand the language used. It also gives some students another means of expressing themselves.



Voice Output Communication Aid

Students may benefit from using a VOCA to support and extend their communication. This can range from a single message device to a computer based aid that has a range of additional functions eg emailing and text messaging.

