

## Information about you

The information you give is kept confidential and may be shared between team members and other staff to help plan the best care for your child. All information we share is on a “need to know” basis and everyone will act professionally with the information you give us.

We will use some of the information for monitoring purposes to make sure we are offering the right service to meet local needs. In special circumstances we may need to share information with other professionals, for example, to keep a child safe and protected from harm. Where possible we will tell you what we are sharing.

## Contact

For further information, please call 01273 242079.

## Get the best from your NHS

Our patient advice and liaison service (PALS) can help patients, families and carers with questions, comments or concerns about NHS services. If you need advice about our services, facilities or staff, or would like to make a comment, please contact PALS at:

### Service Experience Team

Sussex Community NHS Foundation Trust  
FREEPOST (BR117)  
Elm Grove, Brighton BN2 3EW

**Telephone:** 01273 242292

**Email:** [sc-tr.serviceexperience@nhs.net](mailto:sc-tr.serviceexperience@nhs.net)

## Other formats

Please ask any member of the team caring for you if you need this information in large print, Braille, easy read, audio tape or email.

Please ask any member of the team if you need help to understand this information in a language that isn't English.



# Speech and Language Therapy

**Mainstream Schools Service**  
Information Leaflet for Parents and Schools

## What do we do?

We are an advisory service, working in close collaboration with the language support service teachers. We provide support and advice to schools and families, about children who have significant speech, language and communication difficulties.

### **We offer a range of services including:**

- Assessment and advice on the management of speech, language, communication difficulties.
- Support and demonstration of activities for school staff to carry out with children in class, in small groups and in one to one sessions.
- Liaison with other professionals working with the child.
- Contribution to multidisciplinary meetings.
- Training as required to parents/carers, education staff, and other professionals.

## Who do we see?

Referrals for children attending mainstream schools can be made by a parent/carer or any professional with parental consent. Referrals are then discussed at the speech, language and communication service planning meeting at the child's school. This involves the special needs coordinator, SLT and specialist language teacher.

We see children whose speech and language difficulties are having a significant effect on their learning and friendships. For instance they may have difficulty:

- Following classroom instructions.
- Putting their ideas into spoken, coherent sentences.
- Speaking clearly.
- Making friends.

Children who have difficulty saying specific speech sounds or who stammer may be seen at their local clinic.

## How do we work with others?

- **Parents/Carers:** We ask schools to tell parents/carers when we will be visiting their child. If they would like to see us during the visit, this can also be arranged by the school. We send copies of all reports and written advice to parents/carers, and encourage them to contact us by phone if they would like further information.
- **Other professionals:** We work closely with the specialist language teacher, and teaching and support staff within the school to ensure that the child's speech and language programme is an integral part of their school day. Where possible we arrange joint visits with the specialist language teachers, and attend multi-professional meetings as required. We also liaise with any other professionals working with the child, such as educational psychologists and school nurses.