



Autumn 2020



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www.bfwh.nhs.uk/early-language



01253 951101

Welcome!

Hi everyone and welcome to the new school year!

When I was writing our last newsletter, I really didn't know where we would be by the time this one came around and it has certainly been a time of change over recent months!

I hope you're all coping well, both at work and home, and that this term will bring about some positivity for everyone. I am really looking forward to catching up with you all, (even if it's only on screen for a while yet) and getting things back on track. I know many of you are concerned about how the children will have coped with time away from your settings and it will be more important than ever to be proactive in identifying those children needing extra support. Please do join the Language Lead's clusters this term and contact me if you would like to catch up individually. I'll be more than happy to support where I can.

Louise

Speech and Language Therapy services.

Our service is continuing to offer assessment and therapy sessions via video where possible, this might be with the parents at home, or with you in nursery or at school. If we aren't able to meet the child's needs in this way, we will be able to see children in person, provided this can be done in a way that keeps everyone safe.

Please do continue to make referrals or signpost to the telephone drop-in service as needed. Information regarding the drop in service is at the end of this newsletter.

Meet our
team...

Meet one of our Speech and Language

Therapists: **Claire Forster**



My name is Claire Forster and I am a Speech & Language Therapist in the Blackpool, Wyre and Fylde area. I work across several mainstream schools and a special school. My favourite part of the job is making language visual through sign and symbols. My top tip is to make language visual, use natural gestures to support your language, e.g. pretend to drink from a cup when you ask if they want a drink. This will not only support the child's understanding of what is being said, but will keep their attention on what you are saying and will help them develop natural gestures to support their own speech. It is also a lot of fun!

Language Leads—we want you back!!!

As many of you were closed last term, I made the decision to hold a couple of online meetings which were open to Language Leads from any area. This was great as the numbers were small, but I'm going to assume that you're all back and keen to get going this term and so have booked in dates for our usual area clusters— but we'll all be online!

The dates are below along with the links to join the groups—I'll send these again before the time to those of you I have in my email list. If I don't already have your contacts and you would like to join your local meeting, please just use the link below to attend, or drop me an email and I'll add you to my list.

Fylde—Tue 22nd September 16:00—17:30 [Join Microsoft Teams Meeting](#)

Fleetwood—Thu 24th September 16:00—17:30 [Join Microsoft Teams Meeting](#)

Garstang & Over Wyre—Wed 30th September 16:00—17:30 [Join Microsoft Teams Meeting](#)

Thornton/Cleveleys/Poulton—Thu 1st October 16:00—17:30 [Join Microsoft Teams Meeting](#)

Will Covid-19 have an impact on our children's speech, language and communication?

Carly Cook — Teacher and Language Lead from St Wulstan's & St Edmund's in Fleetwood, has been thinking about this and making plans for the new school year.....



I am sure this is a question most early years practitioners will have, especially as the majority of children will have missed a significant amount of time in their prior childcare settings. At St Wulstan's & St Edmund's we are taking some extra measures to support children's learning and development in regards to speech, language and communication.

We decided to take advantage of the lockdown period and upskill the EYFS team by providing updated Wellcomm training and ensuring that each member of the team are confident at a universal level using the Speech, Language and Communication Framework.

We use the Wellcomm programme to support our baseline assessment which enables us to identify areas of concern in language, communication and interaction development. We can then ensure targeted early intervention is in place. Referrals to outside agencies are sent with parents' permission to ensure that children have early, specialised support where necessary.

This year we plan to use the ICAN poster (Ages and Stages of Development) as a checklist in addition to Wellcomm as the poster includes elements of social communication that are not covered with Wellcomm. The poster also provides narrower ages and stages than development matters which shows smaller steps for progression.

If you would like to review staff development with the Speech, Language and Communication Framework as Carly has done, take a look at the online sessions we have coming up (over the page).

Those of you have been involved in our Language Lead's groups will be aware of the 'Speech, Language and Communication Framework' developed by The Communication Trust.

The framework is a way of reviewing your knowledge around speech, language and communication and identifying any areas for your professional development.

We are offering online workshops to help you through the framework and these are open to any practitioners in Fylde and Wyre. Each level of the framework has 10 'strands' and we will work through a few of these in each of the online sessions. Depending on your existing level of knowledge, you can choose to access the 'Universal' level or 'Enhanced'. If you're not sure, I would recommend starting with Universal and move on to Enhanced once that is completed

If you would like to access any of these sessions, let me know at: Louise.rylance@nhs.net and I will send you a link to join the groups.

Universal Level		Enhanced Level	
Strands 1-3	13th Oct; 4pm 14th Oct; 1pm	Strands 1-3	20th Oct; 1pm 22nd Oct; 4pm
Strands 4-6	9th Nov; 1pm 16th Nov; 4pm	Strands 4-6	11th Nov; 1pm 18th Nov; 4pm
Strands 7-10	27th Nov; 1pm 1st Dec; 4pm	Strands 7-10	25th Nov; 1pm 2nd Dec; 4pm



The Commitment continues!! This term we are hoping to start supporting some of our local Childminders to get involved and take on the [Early Years Commitment](#)—this is great news and I'm excited to be working with them all.

For those of you who are already working on this, I'll be in touch in the new term to arrange to review your plans and see what support you need.

Training

I'm really pleased that we will be offering our full programme of training workshops online this term!

You can find the dates over the page for all of this term's workshops—to book a place, please phone 01253 951101 or email: bfwh.admin.paediatrictherapy@nhs.net

Don't forget—in addition to the courses listed here, we can also offer training for the Early Talk Boost and Talk Boost KS1 intervention programmes; as well as whole setting training for the Hanen Teacher Talk workshop. To discuss any of these options or for any other questions, please contact Louise at louise.rylance@nhs.net, and find more information about the workshops at: <https://www.bfwh.nhs.uk/early-language/workforce-development/>

Training

To book a place on any of the courses below, please telephone 01253 951101 or email bfwh.admin.paediatrictherapy@nhs.net

All workshops will be delivered online—please ensure you leave a contact email address when booking and the link to join the course will be sent to you along with any other information or documents needed.

Course	Date	Time	Cost
Hanen Teacher Talk A	24th Sept		
	1st Oct	09:30—11:30	
	8th Oct	09:30—12:00	£20 per person
	(must attend all 3 sessions)	09:30—12:00	
Introduction to speech, language and communication development for children aged 3-5	29th Sept	09:30—12:30	FREE
Introduction to speech sound development	16th October	09:30—12:00	FREE
ICAN Early Talk—Working with Under 3s	12th October	13:00—15:30	FREE
	19th October	13:00—15:30	
	(must attend both sessions)		
Supporting speech, language and communication development for children aged 3-5	10th November	09:30—12:00	FREE
	17th November	09:30—12:00	
	(must attend both sessions)		
ICAN Early Talk—Working with Parents	26th Nov	09:30—12:00	FREE
	3rd Dec	09:30—12:00	
	(must attend both sessions)		



Speech & Language Therapy Telephone Drop In Service



Due to Covid-19, we are now offering a temporary telephone drop in service to replace our usual drop in clinics. This will take place until we are able to run our usual clinics again. These are an opportunity for parents to discuss their concerns about their child's communication with one of our Speech & Language Therapists. Please continue to use the following guidance to help you decide whether to complete a referral or support parents access our telephone drop in service.

Telephone Drop In Service	Refer a child to speech and language therapy
Mild speech sound concerns	Significant concerns with speech sounds
Mild - moderate Language Delay	Significant concerns with use and understanding of language
Stammering – children up to age 7	Social skills / Interaction
Quality of voice	Stammering – 8 years +
Attention and listening	Attention and listening and Auditory Processing

To access the telephone drop in service, please support parents to either:

> Email our Admin Team on: bfwh.admin.paediatrictherapy@nhs.net

With the subject 'DROP IN'

Include their child's name, date of birth and a contact telephone number

OR

> Telephone our Admin Team on: 01253 951101

A Duty SLT will then be in contact to have a chat with parents about their concerns and will offer advice

Speech & Language Therapy

Telephone Drop In Service

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Do you have concerns about any of the following with your child?

Mild difficulties with their use of words

Attention & listening skills

Stammering



Difficulties with their understanding of words

Mild difficulties with their speech sounds

Voice quality

If so, parents can:

> Email our Admin Team on: bfwh.admin.paediatrictherapy@nhs.net

With the subject 'DROP IN'

Include your child's name, date of birth and a contact telephone number

OR

> Telephone our Admin Team on: [01253 951101](tel:01253951101) and leave a message

A Speech & Language Therapist will then be in contact to discuss your concerns and will offer advice