

# Speech and Language Therapy Services

## Milton Keynes Schools Team Service

### Who are we?

A team within the SLT Service which works alongside other agencies, e.g. Specialist Teachers, to provide advice and support to schools to support children with speech, language or communication needs (SLCN).

### What are Speech, Language and Communication Needs (SLCN)?

SLCN are difficulties with any aspect of speech, language or communication, including social understanding, which affects a child's ability to learn or participate within the classroom and/or to develop social relationships.

### Why do we work with schools?

Difficulties with speech, language or communication can affect a child's progress within school, especially their ability to learn, their confidence to join in with others or to make friends. This may be a short term difficulty which resolves quickly, or it may have longer term implications.

### How do SLTs work to support Schools?

Teaching staff are skilled at supporting children with a wide range of needs, including SLCN, but may sometimes request additional advice from outside agencies, including the SLT service. By working with teaching staff and parents the SLT service may offer specific advice to enable the school to plan the best way to teach the child and to enable the child to use and develop his/her speech, language and communication



### How can I contact the SLT Service?

Talk to your child's class teacher and/or the school SENCo (Special Educational Needs Coordinator) or INCo (Inclusion Coordinator)

They will reassure you or may suggest use of the First Assess Communication Tool to look at your child's communication skills together

If it is felt that involvement of the SLT service would be helpful, the SENCo will ask for your permission to discuss this with the school's named therapist.

If the SLT Service is not already involved with your child we will provide the SENCo/INCo with a 'Request for Involvement of the SLT Service' form which you will be asked to complete and sign, offering as much information as possible about the nature of your concerns and the involvement of any other agencies.

The SENCo/INCo will keep you informed about how and when the Speech and Language Therapist will be involved.

In the case of ongoing involvement of the SLT service, this will be continue to be coordinated by the school SENCo/INCo, who along with the class teacher, should be the first point of contact for parents.