

18th September 2019

Dear Parents / Carers

We are always looking at how we can increase the opportunities we offer our children to make the most of their talents and abilities. Over the last few years we have worked with the NHS Speech and Language Service to work with selected children on building vocabulary and confidence in speech and with teachers to improve the classrooms in order to encourage speaking and listening skills to develop.

As a school we have seen a real positive impact from this work and have decided to increase the amount of time the Speech and Language Service has in school each week. This means that the speech and language practitioner will be able to work with individual children and groups, train teaching assistants and teachers and help to improve our classrooms. We are hopeful that during the year all children will be able to benefit from working with the approaches which we are implementing – these will benefit children right across the ability and age range – but may or may not mean your child working directly with the therapist. If your child does have the opportunity to work directly with the speech and language practitioner you will be informed. However, it may be that they are part of a group with a TA which is supported by the worker for a period as part of the staff members on-going CPD.

We can obviously see the benefits of this work, but understand completely that some parents might not want a worker from another agency working with their child. If you **would not** like the speech and language therapist to work with your child we attach an opt-out letter for you to return to school by Wednesday 25th September 2019. If you are happy for your child to see the speech and language service then please disregard the letter. We are hopeful that this service will add to the provision we are able to offer in a really positive way and look forward to reporting the benefits seen in the months ahead.

Yours faithfully

Mr. R. Pease
Associate Principal



SCHOOL
MEMBER

