

OVERFIELDS



PRIMARY SCHOOL

South Tees Hospitals 

NHS Foundation Trust

Speech and Language Therapy and Overfields Language Unit

The Speech and Language Unit (SLU) at Overfields Primary provides a specialised education for children with significant speech and language difficulties (also now known as Developmental Language Disorder). These children have difficulties with acquiring language in a natural way and these difficulties will impact on their educational progress. Research has shown that early intensive intervention and appropriate curriculum provision can maximise opportunities for children to develop their full potential.

The children who receive support from the Language unit will be dual registered and remain on the role of their mainstream school and assessment data for the D.F.E is recorded with their home school. There is an expectation that the majority of children will return to their mainstream school when their needs can be met within this school with the support of the local mainstream Speech and Language therapy service if required.



Referrals

Referrals are made by the recommendations from a Specialist Speech and Language Therapist (SLT) in conjunction with information from the Educational Psychologist, alongside discussion and agreement with Parents and the mainstream school. Children do not require an Educational Health Care Plan (EHCP) to access this resource.

Criteria for Admission

Children must present with a discrepancy between their non verbal abilities and in their development of speech, language and communication (verbal skills). These difficulties will have a significant impact on their access to most of the curriculum and with limited or no progress in their speech, language and communication skills despite specialist intervention.



Transition into LU

Children/Parents/school staff are encouraged to visit the SLU to meet with the SLU staff once a place has been offered. Opportunities are also available for mainstream schools to visit the SLU to support the transition and develop links for sharing information.

Language Unit Provision:

- Full time & Part-time Language Unit placement: 20 places over Key Stage 1 and 2

Full-time children will attend 4 1/2 days at the SLU and 1/2 day in their mainstream school. These children will follow the **SLU PD days & school holidays. Parents must inform both schools and their taxi of any appointments or absences (sickness).**

Part-time children will attend 5 mornings at the SLU and 5 afternoons in their mainstream school. These children will follow their **mainstream school PD days & school holidays. Parents must inform both schools and their taxi of any appointments, absences (sickness) or school trips.**

- Part-time Nursery placement: 4 places in Foundation stage for children 3+.

Nursery children will attend 4 mornings at the SLU and on Friday they will attend their mainstream school. **Reception children** will attend 5 mornings at the SLU and 5 afternoons in their mainstream school. **All of the children in Foundation Stage will follow their mainstream school PD days & school holidays. You must inform both schools and their taxi of any appointments, absences (sickness) or school Trips.**

- **Outreach support** consisting of 2 one hour weekly sessions:10 places supported through specialist outreach education. Children will receive a maximum of 3 terms—2x Individual Therapy sessions per week in their mainstream school.

Staffing:

- Overfields School Head Teacher– Mrs T Watson
- SLU Coordinator/KS1 —Mrs A. Henman
- KSI SLU –Mrs V.Smart (Wed/Thur/Fri) + 1 Specialist TA– Mrs T.Moy
- KS2 SLU– Mrs C.Gowland+ 1 Specialist TA– Mrs J. De Santis
- Foundation Stage- 1 Specialist TA– Mrs J. Thomas
- 3 Specialist Speech and Language Therapists (SLT)-Helen Webb, Eileen Grimbley, Gaynor Thorpe and Specialist SLTA –Becky Sykes

Transport

The Education LEA's may provide transport for children to and from school, usually by a taxi or minibus. **A letter of confirmation will be sent out with all essential information.** All drivers and escorts are vetted by the LEA and Taxi Licencing Authority. It is the responsibility of the parents/carers to see children safely on and off the transport and that there is a responsible adult in the house when they arrive home. When arriving and leaving the SLU the children are assisted on and off the transport by a member of the SLU staff. **Parents MUST remember to inform the taxi firm in advance of any appointments or absences (sickness) and of the child's return to school.**



Curriculum

All the children attending the Overfields SLU will receive a balance of specialist speech and language therapy support and a differentiated access to the National Curriculum subjects appropriate to their needs. The full-time children will integrate into the mainstream classes on an afternoon with additional support.



Monitoring of Progress

Children's progress is monitored closely through assessment from SLT's; in accordance with the schools assessment policy and through moderation of the children's work. SEN Support Plans are reviewed and updated termly and shared with parents and schools. Review meetings are arranged with parents to discuss progress. The SLU team will liaise fully with mainstream schools regarding the children's needs and progress.

Panel meetings are held termly and all children are discussed at the panel meetings and SEN Support Plan/EHCP & assessment data are used to inform decisions about appropriateness of provision.

Preparation for leaving the SLU

The children will have either age appropriate language skills or functional language skills in both their speech production, understanding and use of language.

They will also be able to access the curriculum with typical mainstream support.

Additional reasons for leaving the SLU will be changes in academic learning ability which may influence placement in the unit.

Transition out of the LU:

Plans will be drawn up to support transition back into the mainstream setting through visits and opportunities to share relevant information. Transition to Key Stage 3 will follow the normal transition process.

Contact Information

Overfields Primary School

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Ormesby

Middlesbrough

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Email _ropahenman@overfieldsprimary.org.uk

Parents Comments

It has been fantastic to see such significant improvement in his speaking and learning abilities thanks to your patience and dedicated work with him.

We cannot thank you enough for your support and help.

It's been lovely to watch his speech improve.

Children's Comments

I like working with the therapists because I'm learning to speak better

The teachers have helped with my reading and spell words I didn't know.

Everyone is nice

My work and talking has got better