

## Speech and Language Therapy department

### Discharge Criteria – Children’s Team

Children and Young People are discharged from the service when they meet any of the following criteria:

- Speech/language/Communication/Feeding is within normal limits or the aims of intervention have been achieved.
- The child is presenting with a mild (up to 12 months) delay in their speech, language and communication skills.
- The child has reached 7 years old and presents with isolated language difficulties. The child will be discharged with advice and support strategies. School staff will be able to access a rolling programme of training.
- The child has reached secondary school age and is not presenting with stammering, voice difficulties, severe and profound hearing loss, requiring augmentative and/or alternative communication aids or meets the criteria for any of our specialist teams. The child’s transition into secondary school will be supported and then the child will be discharged by the end of the autumn term. School staff will be able to access a rolling programme of training.
- The child’s language and/or functional communication is at a level where they can engage with the curriculum and learning (with support if needed).
- The child/young person has reached a point where they are able to self-manage their condition.
- Progress is limited by levels of motivation/cooperation or learning difficulties with no progress being made following a period of robust intervention.
- The family/school/setting does not engage with the service or take up the appointments offered – please see non-attendance policy. This includes schools that do not engage with the implementation of a SALT programme.
- Timing is not right for input but re-entry to the service is possible when circumstances change.

- The child/young person moves out of area – arrangements will be made to transfer the child to the local Speech and Language Therapy department where appropriate.

Decisions will always be made following discussion with the child/young person and carer where appropriate, and based on the clinical judgement of the Speech and Language Therapist. Such decisions are made in accordance with professional standards and clinical guidelines.

**Re-referral Criteria:**

For a re-referral to be accepted, the referrer must be able to demonstrate:

- A significant change in the child/young person's speech/language/communication or feeding
- A change in readiness/commitment to therapy (child, family and/or school/setting)

Glen Burley, Chief Executive

Russell Hardy, Chairman