

Hertfordshire Community NHS Trust



Children and Young
People's Speech &
Language Therapy
Service

Training Offer Document

Working with You



Hertfordshire Children and Young People’s Speech and Language Therapy Service

Training Offer for Schools, Early years Settings, Families and our Partners in Health and Education

The Children and Young People’s Speech and Language Therapy Service is committed to HCT’s vision of maintaining and improving the health and wellbeing of the people of Hertfordshire. We also support Hertfordshire County Council’s (HCC) special educational needs and disabilities strategy.

Training of the wider children’s workforce, families and our partners in health and education forms an integral part of our service offer¹. Training is embedded into the offer at each tier of our model of service delivery. This is based upon the Balanced System (M. Gascoigne 2009) and defined by universal, specialist and targeted tiers.

Training from the Children and Young People’s Speech and Language Therapy Service is delivered in conjunction with other local and national providers such as Hertfordshire Integrated Services for Learning, Herts for Learning and other health services. There is regular sign-posting to training opportunities for continued professional development, which may include online courses.

Offer for Schools and Early Years settings

1. Accredited Eklan Training

Let's Talk with under 5s

Let’s Talk with under 5s gives practical advice and strategies on speech, language and communication development, which are also suitable for children with English as an additional language and other educational needs. Participants receive an illustrated workbook full of ideas and information to support pre-school children. By completing activities within the workbook, participants can receive an accredited certificate. These courses are advertised across Hertfordshire, with places bookable in advance for any preschool or early years practitioner. There is a cost associated with course materials. The course is taught over seven 2 hr sessions usually delivered weekly.

Supporting Communication for 3-5yrs, 5 – 11yrs and 11 – 16yrs

These are accredited courses for those working with children and young people aged 3-5 years, 5-11 years or 11-16 years. Each course provides information and strategies to develop the communication skills of all children and young people, but especially those with speech, language and communication needs. It equips them with innovative tools and methods to enhance learning in the classroom and promotes quality first teaching. The courses are usually delivered over ten weekly sessions however they may also be taught as an intensive three day programme. The course uses relevant teaching methods including practical activities, videos and group discussion to engage learners. Learners can choose to study at level 2 or 3 with an E-portfolio completed online to gain accreditation. All learners receive a Language Builders book which supports them through the

¹ Hertfordshire Children and Young People’s Speech and Language Therapy Service Offer April 2018.

course. These courses are advertised across Hertfordshire, with places bookable in advance for any staff member from any setting. There is a cost associated with these courses.

Communication Friendly Setting (CFS)

We offer support to settings wishing to gain accredited Elklan 'Communication Friendly Setting' (CFS) status. Accreditation can be achieved in one year and can be renewed after three years.

2. Makaton Training

Beginners' Workshops

We have registered Makaton regional tutors who regularly deliver Beginners' Workshops. The aim of this workshop is to teach signs from stages 1-4 of the Makaton vocabulary. All participants receive an official Makaton certificate. The sessions are advertised across Hertfordshire, with places bookable in advance for any staff member from any setting. There is a cost associated with course materials. The Makaton Beginners' Workshop is made up of 4 modules, with an initial 2 half days of core training and an additional 2 half days for those who would like to develop skills further.

Introductory Signing Workshop

For staff supporting children and young people for whom signing has been recommended by a therapist, we offer Introductory Signing workshops. One free place is available for an identified staff member to attend alongside the parent or carer of the child or young person. These are short one-off sessions which explore the use of signing as a visual support for communication. Participants will be introduced to around 25 basic signs. These workshops are run frequently across the county by staff from the Speech and Language Therapy team, overseen by a Makaton regional tutor.

3. Word Aware Introductory Workshops

We have registered Word Aware trainers who can deliver full day Word Aware introductory workshops. Word Aware is a structured whole school approach to promote the vocabulary development of all children. Introductory workshops will be regularly advertised across Hertfordshire with places bookable in advance for any staff member from any setting. Schools interested in commissioning whole school introductory workshops are advised to contact the service for full details. There are costs associated with this training.

4. Supporting Social Communication in Primary

This is a two part training course based on the principles of SCERTS² for staff in Primary schools working with children with social communication difficulties. Each part focuses on understanding social communication and strategies which can be implemented within a classroom. Attendees are supported to create a plan for a child they are working with during part 1, which is then built upon

² Social Communication Emotional Regulation Transactional Support (Prizant et al. 2006)

during part 2. This course is usually run twice a year and advertised across Hertfordshire. Places must be booked in advance; however there is no course fee.

5. SLCN Workshops

Workshops will be run throughout the year, focusing on a specific aspect of speech, language and communication. They will offer information and practical tips for anyone supporting children and young people with SLCN. Topics and locations will vary and will be advertised across the county. Workshop attendance will be free for staff currently working in Hertfordshire Local Authority Maintained settings. Any other individuals wishing to attend may do so for a nominal fee.

6. Commissioned, whole school support packages

Schools who are interested in developing a whole school approach to SLCN can choose from the following range of packages.

- Vocabulary
- Social Communication
- Applying Communication Friendly Strategies
- Hertfordshire Visual Coding
- Signing

Each package will involve training sessions delivered in the school, a number of hands-on support sessions with named staff members, and follow-up sessions to encourage carry-over and generalisation across the school.

These packages would be additionally commissioned by a setting due to the intensive, individualised support they offer to the whole school. Any settings interested in commissioning whole school support packages are advised to contact the service for full details including associated costs.

7. Specialist training

Specialist training can be offered to a setting where this is required to meet the needs of a child or young person within that setting. This may be delivered as part of a child or young person's Education Health and Care Plan (EHCP), but would also be offered for children and young people without an EHCP. Examples may include use of symbol exchange systems, Alternative and Augmentative systems (AAC), supporting children with eating and drinking skills. There is no cost involved and would be offered on the advice of the child or young person's therapist for any Local Authority maintained or independent setting within Hertfordshire.

8. Integrated Therapy Training for Specialist Provisions

For specialist educational settings who have an integrated therapy team, training can be delivered to meet the school priorities as part of the allocated sessions provided with no additional cost. This can be delivered on Inset days or built into staff meetings. For settings supporting children and young people with eating and drinking difficulties specific training will be offered to settings every 2 years, or as requested according to need. Where Ekklan training is delivered for staff within a specialist provision there may be additional costs associated with course materials and accreditation. At the setting's discretion, places may be offered to other specialist settings e.g. fostering links between special schools.

Offer for Early Years Workforce Development

1. Promoting Communication Development

This workshop reinforces and develops the early years workforce's knowledge on ages and stages of speech and language development. It provides participants with strategies which can be used with all children at each stage. Practitioners are encouraged to think about what speech and language support can be offered to children at differing levels of need. It offers guidance on identification of speech, language and communication needs and when to suggest that families should access specialist support from the Speech and Language Therapy Service.

Promoting Communication Development is a prerequisite for Family Centre staff before they embark on running one of our targeted parent support packages. This workshop is usually run termly and advertised across Hertfordshire. Places must be booked in advance; however there is no attendance fee.

2. Supporting Social Communication in Early Years

This workshop focuses on understanding social communication development and supports attendees to identify children who may have difficulties. Advice and practical strategies are given to help early years practitioners facilitate interaction. This workshop is usually run twice a year and advertised across Hertfordshire. Places must be booked in advance; however there is no attendance fee.

3. Parent Support Package Training

This training enables early years practitioners to deliver one of our targeted parent support packages. After an initial workshop practitioners will be supported to co-deliver these packages alongside a member of the speech and language therapy team for families accessing their setting. Attendees will be equipped to run the packages independently within their setting. Training must be arranged in advance by Family Centres wishing to host a parent support package. There is no course

fee for Family Centres; however other groups interested in this training can contact the service to discuss their needs.

4. Talking with Children

This is a two part training course that can be commissioned by Family Support Services, DSPL areas, individual early years settings or child minder networks. Video recording is used to facilitate self-reflection by practitioners, to increase their awareness of interaction styles and how to adapt their own interactions to promote children's communication development. There are costs associated with this training.

5. WellComm Screening Tool

This is a two part training course for early years and Foundation Stage settings who have purchased the WellComm toolkit. Practitioners learn how to screen and intervene using their WellComm screen and 'The Big Book of Ideas' for children aged 6 months to 6 years. Further support sessions from a member of the therapy team may be provided for settings wishing to build staff confidence in continuing to use WellComm independently. There may be costs associated with this training depending upon the level of support required. This may be commissioned by Family Support Services, DSPL areas or child minder networks.

Offer for Partners in Education and Health

We routinely provide training opportunities to our partners in health and education. This may include:

- Training workshops for Specialist Advisory Services and Integrated Services for Learning
- Training workshops for public health nursing and other health services
- Presenting at study days and conferences
- ASD and DLD Clinical Excellence Networks
- Presenting at DSPL events

Requests for specific training packages may incur a cost. Any services or professional groups who are interested in receiving training are advised to contact the service to discuss their needs.

Makaton Foundation Workshops

These workshops provide a detailed introduction to Makaton and are aimed at professionals or specialist teachers who wish to have an in-depth understanding of Makaton signing, links to symbol use and learn signs from stages 1-4 of the Makaton vocabulary. These courses are advertised across Hertfordshire, with places bookable in advance. There is a cost associated with this course which is delivered by accredited Makaton regional tutors. All participants receive a Makaton certificate.

Offer for Families

1. Offered within Family Centres

We work closely with staff within the Family Centre Service, to develop programmes of support for parents and carers. We have devised a range of packages that can be run by setting staff to support families with children aged 0 – 5 years. Each package includes a range of activities and advice to support parents and carers to develop their child's communication skills. Family Centres may offer one off workshops or sessions for families on communication. These may be delivered by a member of the speech and language therapy team or by trained Family Centre staff.

2. Makaton

Beginners' Workshops

We have registered Makaton regional tutors who regularly deliver Beginners' Workshops. The aim of this workshop is to teach signs from stages 1-4 of the Makaton vocabulary. All participants receive an official Makaton certificate. These are advertised across Hertfordshire, with places bookable in advance. There is a cost associated with course materials. The Makaton Beginners' Workshop is made up of 4 modules, with an initial 2 half days of core training and an additional 2 half days for those who would like further development.

Introductory Signing Workshop

For parents and carers of children and young people for whom signing has been recommended by a therapist, we offer Introductory Signing workshops. One free place is available for an identified staff member to attend alongside the parents or carers of the child or young person. These are short one-off sessions which explore the use of signing as a visual support for communication. Participants will be introduced to around 25 basic signs. These workshops are run frequently across the county by staff from the Speech and Language Therapy team, overseen by a Makaton regional tutor.

3. Offered during a child's episode of care

Parent Workshops

Where a child has identified speech language and communication needs we work closely with families to help them understand their child's needs. Many of our intervention packages begin with a parent only workshop. This provides families with an opportunity to learn about communication development and the challenges their child faces. Following the workshop families will be part of group sessions. During these sessions there are opportunities to share experiences with others, learn and practise new strategies and have queries answered by a member of the speech and language therapy team.

More Than Words

More Than Words is a course for parents and carers of pre-school children with social communication difficulties including those with a diagnosis of autism. It is delivered by Hanen trained speech and language therapists and includes home video coaching. The course offers 4 home visits and 8 three hour group sessions for parents and carers. There is an additional orientation session prior to starting the course. Families are referred by their child's speech and language therapist and the course is delivered as the next phase of intervention. Courses are offered in a range of locations and times across Hertfordshire. Early evening sessions are also available. If families wish to purchase the course materials there is an associated cost; however there is no cost for attendance.

Specialist Training

Specialist training would be offered to families where this is required to meet needs of a child or young person. This may be delivered as part of a child or young person's Educational Health Care Plan (EHCP), but would also be offered for children and young people without an EHCP. Examples may include use of symbol exchange systems, Alternative Augmentative Communication (AAC) systems, supporting children with eating and drinking skills. There is no cost involved and would be offered on the advice of the child or young person's speech and language therapist.

4. Elklan Let's Talk with under 5s

Let's Talk with under 5s gives practical advice and strategies on supporting young children's speech, language and communication development. Participants receive an illustrated workbook full of ideas, activities and information to use at home. Everyone will receive a certificate of attendance however there are also options to gain an accredited certificate. These courses are advertised across Hertfordshire, with places bookable in advance. The course is taught over seven 2 hr sessions usually delivered weekly. Families interested in attending this course are welcome to contact the service. There is a cost associated with course materials.

5. Offered by public health nursing

We work closely with colleagues in public health nursing to develop programmes to support eating and drinking skills. Each course includes a range of activities and advice to support parents and carers to develop their child's safe eating and drinking skills. Courses are run across Hertfordshire in a range of accessible settings and delivered by health professionals.

Contact Details for Hertfordshire Children and Young People's Speech and Language Therapy Service:

Telephone: 01992 823084

e-mail : HCT.SLTCommunications@nhs.net

<http://www.hct.nhs.uk/our-services/childrens-speech-and-language-therapy/>

Glossary

Augmentative and Alternative Communication (AAC) is the term used to describe various methods of communication that can 'add-on' to speech and are used to get around problems with ordinary speech. AAC includes simple systems such as pictures, gestures and pointing, as well as more complex techniques involving powerful computer technology.

Education and Health Care Plan (EHCP) replace current Statements of SEN and Learning Difficulty Assessments. The plan will be a legal document describing a young person's needs, the provision to meet those needs and the suitable educational placement.

Elklan is an organisation which develops courses that support adults to help children and young people to develop their ability to understand, listen and talk.

Family Centre Services are community resources providing local support to families and children. Children's Centres will be called Family Centres and the staff will be called Family Support staff and will work with families with children from 0-11 years. Health Visitors and School Nurses will be called Public Health Nurses, together they are the Hertfordshire Family Centre Service.

Makaton is a language programme using signs and symbols to help people to communicate. It is designed to support spoken language and the signs and symbols are used with speech, in spoken word order.

Public health nursing are health visitors and school nurses

Appendix

Package Summary Guide

<u>Package</u>	<u>Duration</u>	<u>Attendance costs?</u>	<u>Audience</u>
Elklan Let's Talk with under 5s	Seven 2 hour sessions	YES	Professionals & Practitioners & Families
Elklan Supporting Communication Courses	Ten 2 hour sessions <u>or</u> 3 full days	YES	Professionals & Practitioners
Makaton Beginners' Workshops	Four half days	YES	Professionals & Practitioners & Families
Makaton Foundation Workshops	Four half days	YES	Professionals & Practitioners
Introductory Signing Workshops	2 hours	NO	Professionals & Practitioners & Families
Word Aware Introduction	One full day	YES	Professionals & Practitioners
Supporting Social Communication in Primary	Two 2 hour sessions	NO	Professionals & Practitioners
SLCN Workshops	Each workshop 2 hours	NO	Professionals & Practitioners
Commissioned whole school support	Package dependent	YES	Whole School
Specialist Training	CYP specific	NO	Staff supporting CYP & Families
Integrated therapy training for specialist provisions	Setting specific	NO	Whole School
Promoting Communication Development	2 hours	NO	Professionals & Practitioners
Supporting Social Communication in Early Years	2 hours	NO	Professionals & Practitioners
Parent Support Package Training	Package dependent	No cost for Family Centres	Professionals & Practitioners
Talking with Children	Two half days	YES	Professionals & Practitioners
WellComm	Two half days	YES	Professionals & Practitioners
Parent Workshops	60-90mins	NO	Families
More Than Words	Eight 3 hour sessions plus 4 home visits	NO – option to purchase resource book	Families