

The Charter School North Dulwich



Speech & Language / Social Communications / SEMH Provision

Information for parents and carers 2021-2022

Learning Support Department

What is Speech and Language Therapy?



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Speech and language therapy provides treatment, support and care for children, young people and adults who have difficulties with communication, or with eating, drinking and swallowing.

Speech and language therapists (SLTs) are Allied Health Professionals. They work with parents, carers and other professionals, such as Teachers, Teaching Assistants, Nurses, Doctors and Occupational Therapists. There are around 17,000 practising SLTs in the UK working in a variety of settings, including Charter North Dulwich and TCSET.

What is Social Communications?

Social communication is the use of language in social contexts. It encompasses social interaction, social cognition, pragmatics, and language processing.

Social communication disorder is characterized by difficulties with the use of verbal and nonverbal language for social purposes. Primary difficulties are in social interaction, social cognition, and pragmatics. Specific deficits are evident in the individual's ability to:

- communicate for social purposes in ways that are appropriate for the particular social context
- change communication to match the context or needs of the listener
- follow rules for conversation and storytelling
- understand non-literate or ambiguous language
- understand what is not explicitly stated

Mental Health and Wellbeing

Mental health includes our emotional, psychological, and social well-being. It affects how we think, feel, and act. It also helps determine how we handle stress, anxiety, relate to others, and make choices. Mental health is important at every stage of life, from childhood and adolescence through adulthood.

Over the course of a lifespan, anyone can experience mental health problems. You're thinking, mood, and behaviour could be affected and many factors contribute to mental health problems, including:

- Biological factors, such as genes or brain chemistry
- Life experiences, such as trauma or abuse
- Family history of mental health problems

People with mental health problems can get better and many recover completely. Help is available at Charter North Dulwich for our students who need wellbeing support from trained School Counsellors and Mental Health First Aiders.

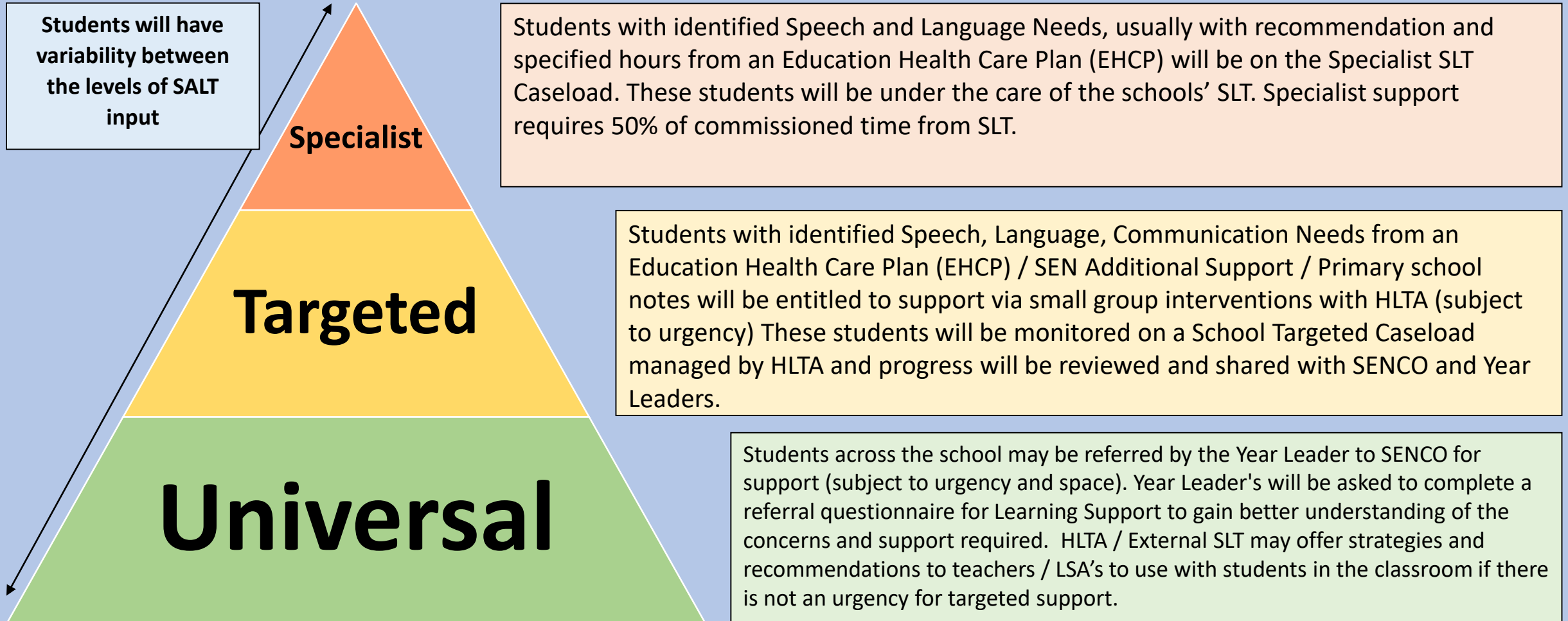
Speech and Language / Social Communications: Model of Support

KEY STAFF:

External Speech & Language Therapist: Georgia Samwell

HLTA / Co-ordinator: Amy Adewale

SENCo: Rachel Howes



SALT Support Overall Plan: Communication and Interaction

| Area of Need | Universal Support | Targeted Support | Specialist Support |
|--------------------------------------|--|---|--|
| Communication and Interaction | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Supporting Teachers with differentiation of the curriculum e.g. simplified language ➤ Shared strategies for teachers to use with students during Remote Teaching via Teams / Face to face teaching in school. | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Drop-in sessions x1 a week for students who receive Social Communications sessions in school. ➤ Interactive activities shared with parents / carers online ➤ Targeted activity worksheets offered upon request for Parents / carers ➤ LSA's / HLTA's supporting key students with language and social thinking in classrooms. ➤ Targeted Interventions for selected students on the caseload – delivered by HLTA / SLT. | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Drop-in sessions x1 a week for parents / carers - for all support levels including Specialist Support. ➤ Speech and Language Programmes / Interventions delivered by SLT and supported by HLTA for Specialist Caseload Students. ➤ SLT to conduct assessments and Annual Review reports for students with EHCP's. ➤ Types of interventions provided: <i>Talking Partners, Zones of Regulation, Talkabout, Social Stories, Social Thinking / Solution Focused Therapy, Language for Behaviour and Emotions, Speech Bubbles</i> to support social understanding and <i>Motivational Interviewing skills</i> – targeted at Sixth Form students |

SALT Support Overall Plan: SEMH

| Area of Need | Universal Support | Targeted Support | Specialist Support |
|--|--|--|--|
| Social, Emotional and Mental Health | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Structured school day with consistent lesson times ➤ Flexible Teaching for students who are struggling. LSA's / HLTA's / Inclusion Team will be supporting students during the day. ➤ Tutor time daily at 8:30am | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Support for parents / carers during unstructured activities ➤ Working closely with School Counsellors to provide up to date websites / helplines to support students Mental Health and Wellbeing outside of school hours. ➤ Regular communication with Inclusion Team to help support mentoring sessions. ➤ Students can be referred for school counselling via Year Leaders. | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ SLT to offer support phone calls to parents of students on the Specialist Caseload ➤ Support for parents / carers during unstructured activities ➤ HLTA and SLT working closely together to support parents with social activities at home ➤ Regular drop ins for students during free time (break, lunch, afterschool if they need to talk to a Mental Health First Aider) |

Contact for Further Information:



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