# DSPL9 Speech, Language and Communication Outreach



# Information Booklet about SLCN support for DSPL9 Schools

September 2020



### Introduction

DSPL9 have adopted a tiered approach to Speech, Language and Communication Needs (SLCN). This builds on the specialist provisions for SLCN (Key Stage 1 and 2) at Central Primary School, expanding the educational support for pupils with SLCN beyond those who have EHCPs for SLCN.

There are three key aims to this tiered approach:

- 1) Provide early intervention to support good levels of communication and language across all settings.
- 2) To expand support of SLCN educational services to encompass the age range 0-25
- 3) To provide access to specialist provision for pupils awaiting EHCP assessments

# Model of SLCN Support in DSPL9

Tier 1

Within individual schools

Tier 2

- General Support and Training from Base School
- Top Tips Document and Toolkit

Tier 3

• Central Primary Outreach



### **Tier 1: Within Individual Schools**

Under the SEND Code of Practice, schools have a duty to provide support for pupils with SLCN. As part of this schools will have developed their own systems to ensure that pupils are accessing the support they need to make good progress.

Tier 1 relates to this quality first approach to teaching and learning and schools will have in place a variety of systems to support SLCN pupils. This might include:

- SEND/ Inclusion policy
- Staff induction process
- Staff training
- SEND specialist staff
- Pastoral support
- CPD

As a DSPL our approach is always about building capacity within schools at Tier 1, so the needs of the majority of SLCN pupils are being met within their mainstream educational setting, from experienced and well-informed practitioners who understand how difficulties may present and most importantly how we can support these children in school.

Schools are encouraged to access Tier 2 support through the publication of the Top Tips (launching September 2020) and Toolkit (launching Spring 2021) documentation to develop their own offer at Tier 1 and to facilitate the development of their staff.



# **Tier 2: General Support from Central Primary's Bases**

### Top Tips

In September 2020 we are launching a document called 'Top Tips For Supporting Pupils With Speech, Language And Communication Needs'. This aim of this document is to provide educational professionals with information, strategies and resources to support pupils with SLCN in their return to school. Although the content is aimed at supporting pupils with SLCN many of the strategies will also support other pupils their speech, language and communication skills.

Schools are encouraged to implement the strategies and advice included within the 'Top Tips' document in order to develop their own offer at Tier 1.

### **Toolkit**

During Spring 2021 we are launching a 'Speech, Language and Communication Needs Toolkit'. The aim of this document is to provide more detailed information and activities to support pupils with SLCN within the classroom. Although the content is aimed at supporting pupils with SLCN many of the strategies will also support other pupils their speech, language and communication skills.

Schools are encouraged to implement the strategies and advice included within the 'Toolkit' document in order to develop their own offer at Tier 1.

### **Training**

At Tier 2 Central Primary also offers 'Word Aware' training. Word Aware is a whole school approach to promoting vocabulary development in children. This training is available for individuals or groups of practitioners from Early Years, Primary and Secondary settings.

Training Dates will be sent out via the DSPL9 admin team on a termly basis. Please contact Central Primary on <u>admin@central.herts.sch.uk</u> to arrange in house training. An in-house training session will cost £250.



## **Tier 3- Central Primary Outreach**

### Phone line

From October 12<sup>th</sup> we will be offering a contact line. This will enable schools to discuss children on an unnamed child basis. This service will support practitioners to understand how a child's difficulties may be presenting and how to support them in school. We can also provide advice about implementing the 'Top Tips' and how to tailor these according to children's individual needs.

To access the contact line, please email <a href="mailto:admin@central.herts.sch.uk">admin@central.herts.sch.uk</a>. A member of the SLCN Base Team will then be in touch to arrange a phone call.

### Outreach sessions

Central Primary is DSPL9 specialist setting for SLCN pupils. It has specialist provision for pupils aged 4-11. Its base and mainstream staff are all trained in speech, language and communication needs and are able to provide specific outreach to DSPL9 to:

- Working to support schools with named children
- Working alongside teachers/TA's
- Provide reintegration support/ Transition support
- Support mainstream practitioners with pupils with EHCPs for SLCN
- Observation and feedback
- Developing communication and language throughout teaching and learning

The outreach will usually take the form of 5 sessions and a summary report which will also be shared with the DSPL Speech, Language and Communication Sub Committee.

Session 1: Initial Set-Up Meeting: Agreeing priorities and setting aims

Session 2 – 5: Training and Outreach Work

Summary Report: To be delivered to the setting within 2 weeks of outreach completion.

A referral form must be completed with evidence of Tier 1 and 2 support (as appropriate) to access Tier 3 support. This includes the implementation of the strategies outlined in the 'Top Tips' document.



Each referral form will be considered by the Speech, Language and Communication Sub Committee which meet half term to decide to provide Tier 3 support.

In some instances referrals will be given to Central Primary directly from SEND services as part of intervention work they would like to undertake with specific settings, to develop their Tier 1 practice.

The decisions of the sub-committee will be sent out to settings and to the DSPL9 administrator after each meeting.

