

Part Time
Speech and Language Unit

Matthew Arnold Primary School
Dingle Lane
Liverpool
L8 9UB

Telephone: 0151 5390300



Aims of the Language Unit

The aim of the Language Unit and Outreach Support is for staff from Liverpool City Council (LCC) and Speech and Language Therapists from Alder Hey Hospital Trust to work in partnership with each other and with parents and schools to return pupils to their local mainstream school full time as quickly as possible. In order for pupils to reach their full potential, the goal is to support their speech and language needs so that their speech and language skills progress and develop in line with their other abilities.

When will My Child Leave the Language Resource?

Children will leave the Language Resource when they have reached their full potential, in the areas of speech and language skills. This is individual to each child and will depend on the severity of their speech/language impairment, their general learning skills, age at which they first attended the Language Resource and their rate of progress. All children and their needs are very different and individual. Their length of placement will reflect this. Speech therapists will have a discussion with parents when they feel the child is ready to leave the resource. This discussion will also include Language Resource teachers.

Staff

Mrs L. Evans - Head Teacher

Mrs R Pender - Deputy Head Teacher

Miss R Newitt - Language Class Teacher (Monday/Tuesday)

Miss J. West - Language Class Teacher (SEND/CO) Thursday/Friday

Mrs B. Badger - Language Class Teacher

Mrs L. Tweedle - Support Assistant (Speech and Language)

Mrs H. Lawler - Support Assistant (Speech and Language)

Mrs S. Roach - Speech and Language Therapist

Miss M. Grant - Speech and Language Therapist

Miss Z. Barrett - Speech and Language Therapist

Miss K. Lawler - Speech and Language Therapist

Criteria for admission to the Language Unit

Children who have been assessed as having difficulty in one or more of the following areas;

- Understanding what is said to them - (Verbal Comprehension/Receptive Language)
- Putting words together to talk to people - (Expressive Language)
- Using speech sounds correctly in words which makes their speech unclear and hard to understand - (phonology/speech sound system)

The Language Unit

Eight children aged 4 to 10 attend the language unit on a part-time basis. There are two groups.

Monday and Tuesday group (Wednesday to Friday the child remains at their normal 'home' school.

Thursday and Friday group (Monday to Wednesday the child remains at their normal 'home' school.

The staff to child ratio is high, enabling each child to receive individual attention and specialised help.

The Speech and Language Therapist and the class teacher work closely together and assist the child's school to plan Co- Produced Targets for each child to develop their educational skills. Following assessment, each child receives an intensive programme of individual and group therapy each week.

The class teacher and support staff reinforce the specific work carried out by the speech and language therapist and will visit each child's mainstream school at the start of term to discuss the programme. The schools are encouraged to contact the resource for advice and support if and when this may be necessary.



Each child has speech targets. These are planned by the Speech Therapist and the Class Teacher and are based around the areas of:

- Speech
- Expressive language
- Language comprehension

Children will be withdrawn, individually, by their speech therapist for reinforcement of their individual language programme and its targets.

Children could also work in a group session that may focus on:

- Attention skills
- Listening skills
- Vocabulary
- Co-ordination
- Social skills, specifically relationships with peers

Speech and Language targets will be shared and follow up activities sent home on a weekly basis. It is expected that the speech follow up book and work be sent into their mainstream school. The school will reinforce targets and comment on the child's progress each week.

Monday/Tuesday Group - speech follow up book goes into school Wednesday, Thursday and Friday

Thursday/Friday Group - speech follow up book goes into school Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday.



Every child is different, and parents often arrive at the part-time class full of anxieties following the recommendation for intensive therapy over and above what can be provided in their mainstream school.

If you have a question and you can't see it here, just ask! We are only too happy to help and are just on the end of a phone.

Curriculum

Q. Does the 2 day placement cover the EYFS/National curriculum?

A. English, maths and cross-curricular topics are timetabled in the resource just as in mainstream. Our aim is to support our colleagues in the mainstream schools.

Mainstream Contact

Q. How does my child's mainstream teacher find out about the work of the part-time class?

A. There are termly visits and regular reviews, but more appointments for discussion are arranged if needed.

Q. How long will my child stay in the Language Resource?

A. Each child is different and we cannot predict precisely, but return to mainstream is discussed at every meeting involving parents and their local mainstream school.

Q. How do I know what is happening in the Matthew Arnold class when I don't bring my child in each day and meet the teacher?

A. If you have a query, please ring immediately. Take time to write in the Home/School Link book and put this in your child's bag each day. We also put photos on Twitter so you can see what we have been doing in class.

Q. Will my child miss out on events in their mainstream school?

A. We understand the importance of educational visits, assemblies, end of term activities, and encourage the children to attend their mainstream school for these special times, as long as it doesn't affect their speech and language programme.

As a member of the Matthew Arnold community, the children will be encouraged to become involved in special events such as Red Nose Day, World Book Day etc

Uniform

Q. What will my child wear?

A. In order to promote confidence and a feeling of 'belonging' the children are encouraged to wear the Matthew Arnold sweatshirt with a white polo shirt underneath. This should be worn with grey or black trousers/skirt and sensible school shoes.

Shops that stock our uniform are:

Laser School wear - London Road - 01517090701

Kitted Out - Allerton Road - 01517272000

Information needed

In order for us to get to know your child, it would be helpful if you could give us some information about home. It will make it easier to understand them when they talk about what they have been doing and with whom.

My child's name is:

Are they known by an abbreviated or nickname at home?

Do any other relatives live with you? If so, what are their names?

Does your child have any grandparents or relatives of significant importance and if so what are they known by? (Nan, Gran, Pops, Grandad etc)

Has your child got a particular toy they are fond of or any interests? (e.g. football/swimming)?

Are there any other comments you would like to add which might help your child to feel 'understood' when they come to the Language Unit (e.g. any strong dislikes, anxieties, etc)?

If your child would like to use this page to draw a picture of themselves and their family, please use this spare sheet.