

# EARLY LANGUAGE SUPPORT FOR EVERY CHILD (ELSEC) GLOUCESTERSHIRE NEWSLETTER

## Meet the team:



## What is ELSEC?

ELSEC is a 18 month programme funded by NHS England and the Department for Education as part of the Change Programme. ELSEC aims to improve early identification of speech, language, and communication needs (SLCN) and will focus on universal & targeted support for children aged 2-5 years within early years and primary school settings who may have SLCN.

We are a team of Speech and Language Therapists and Speech and Language Therapy Assistants who will be supporting settings to provide support for children's speech, language and communication.

### Left to right back row:

**Natalie** (ELSEC Assistant), **Oilly** (Speech and Language Therapist & Clinical Lead), **Louise** (Speech and Language Therapist & Clinical Lead), **Rebecca** (Speech and Language Therapist & Clinical Lead), **Jeanette** (Speech and Language Therapist), **Ellie** (ELSEC Assistant), **Nova** (ELSEC Assistant)

### Left to right front row:

**Amy** (ELSEC Assistant), **Emma** (ELSEC Assistant), **Lou** (ELSEC Assistant), **Chloe** (ELSEC Assistant)

Also on the team are **Hannah** (Operational Lead) and **Sarah** (Admin)

## ELSEC updates so far:

The team have been busy creating their own, bespoke **communication friendly environment reflection tool** and have completed reflections in 40 settings. We have also started to build relationships with the settings taking part in the project. The team are grateful for the warm welcomes they have received.

We've had lots of fun completing the KS1 **Talkboost** and **Total Communication** training. We have also had the opportunity to network with the **Early Years Inclusion team**.



We have now received the majority of parental **consent forms**. Shout out to the settings and families who have been proactive with these. This means we can start the screening process as soon as possible in the new term.

The team are privileged to be able to work with such a **diverse community**. We are in the process of **translating relevant resources** including parental consent forms into **18 different languages**.

Already, the team have had the opportunity to attend **parent drop in sessions** in some settings, and have received **valuable feedback**. This **partnership** is integral to the project; we are looking forward to developing this further.

## Challenges we have faced so far:

- It has taken some time to confirm the final list of settings however, this issue has now been resolved.
- Unfortunately, there has been a delay in the team receiving the Wellcomm screening kits. We are pleased to confirm that the kits are on their way ready for us to start screening next term.

## Happening this term...

The team are looking forward to completing their **Makaton training**. This will be beneficial when supporting settings to embed this into their practice.

Once the screening kits have arrived the team will be **Wellcomm trained** ready for the screening process to commence...

**Questionnaires** are being created to support children and families with **English as an Additional Language (EAL)**. These questionnaires will give us more information about how children are using their first languages at home. This will be used to assist with the screening process .



## Strategy of the Term

Try using people games (anticipation games) like:

- Peek-a-boo
- Nursery rhymes– round and round the garden, row row row the boat.
- Tag/chasing games
- Spinning and rocking games

These games need to be repeated in the same way, with the same phrases. Make sure that you are being lively and animated to keep the interaction going as long as possible. Make sure to give the child time to respond to actions that have been made. The back and forth nature is similar to the flow of a conversation which helps to develop communication.

Find more information on ...

[Children's Speech and Language Therapy - Toolkit > Glos Health & Care NHS Foundation Trust](#)

## Advice Service

- For **Early Years settings** needing advice, please do not hesitate to use the Early Years Speech and Language Support Service. This is available **every Wednesday, 8:30am–4:00pm**. Please email your queries to the following email address...

Rebecca.skinner@ghc.nhs.uk

- For **Mainstream Schools** who require advice, please e-mail your queries to ...

sltmainstream@ghc.nhs.uk or call **0300 421 7086**

The mainstream advice line is available **every Wednesday from 12:30pm-3:30pm**.

- For **parents** who have any concerns, please discuss these with the child's setting/school. For further information follow the link below...

[Children's Speech and Language Therapy > Glos Health & Care NHS Foundation Trust](#)

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The team have thoroughly enjoyed getting started with the ELSEC project, building a strong team and are all looking forward to the next stages!