

EARLY LANGUAGE SUPPORT FOR EVERY CHILD (ELSEC) GLOUCESTERSHIRE NEWSLETTER



ELSEC updates so far:

The team have been busy screening the children in their settings this term. We currently have **1645 children registered** and there are still more to come.

So far we have completed the screening process in **23 settings**. We have started the screening process in 22 settings. **999** children have been screened so far. This will continue in the spring term and the team are hoping that the screening process will be complete by **February half term**.

In November, the team completed their **Level One Makaton training**. We are looking forward to applying this knowledge and supporting settings to embed this into their practice.



Happening this term...

WELLCOMM screening continues.

ELSEC leads will be going into each setting to jointly discuss and plan next steps, based on the information gathered so far.

Speech sound screening will begin to take place in settings for individual children, not already known to core service and where this need has been identified.

Questionnaires are ready to go out to settings in over 40 languages for children and families who speak more than one language. 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.

From February half term the ELSEC team will begin to work with teams to support communication development for all children.

Challenges we have faced so far:

- The time scale for the amount of children that need to be screened
- Ensuring consent forms are filled out correctly so that the children can be successfully registered.



Strategy of the Term

Commenting

Children learn language by listening to what other people say. Using commenting during everyday conversations and play can promote children's language development.

How to use Commenting

Say what is happening, for example: "dolly is sleeping" and "you're driving"

Explaining and telling a child what a word means, for example: "A hat to keep your head warm"

Adding something extra so children develop their language, for example: Child says "Water", Adult says "water all gone"

***Please Remember...**It is important for parents to speak to their child in the language(s) they feel most comfortable using. A solid foundation in a home language will make learning English much easier. Being able to speak more than one language can allow children to communicate with people in their extended family and community. This can help children feel secure in their cultural identity and give them a sense of belonging.

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**.

Please remember to refer any children who you have concerns about their speech, language and communication to the core service. You do not need to wait for screening results to do this.

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

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

0300 4218937

