

Speech and Language Therapy Provision at Mowmacre Hill Primary School

School Context:

Mowmacre Hill Primary School is a mixed inner city primary school located on the Mowmacre Hill estate in Leicester which is an area of low socio-economic status. The school caters for pupils from Early Years through to Year Six and has a preschool provision which children can access from the age of three. As part of their everyday support for pupils, Mowmacre Hill Primary School has an established in-house well-being team which includes the SENDCO, Family Welfare and Safeguarding Officer, Attendance Officer, SEMH Champion, Behaviour Mentor and 2 ELSA's and they are supported by several services that they can access through Leicester City Local Authority. In addition, the school currently commissions 1 day per week of Educational Psychology input and 2.5 days per week of Speech and Language Therapy input from EPIC Services.

Current school information (as of 13.01.2022):

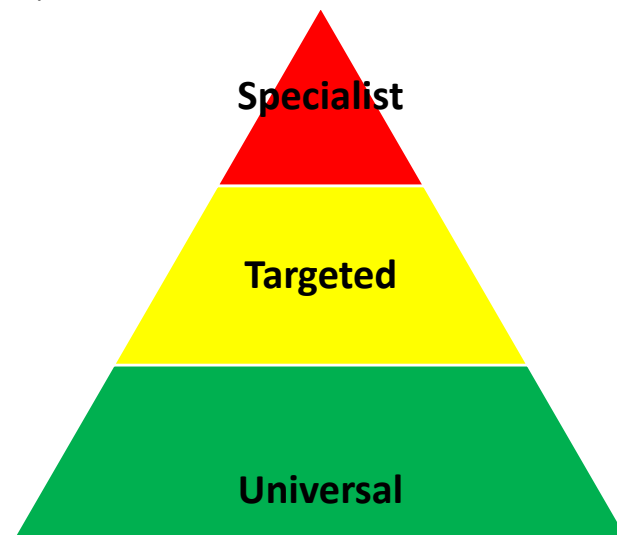
- Number of pupils on roll: 391
- Number of pupils in receipt of pupil premium funding: 173 (44.24%)
- Number of pupils on the SEND register: 68 (17.39%)
- Number of pupils in receipt of an EHCP: 8 (2.04%)
- Number of Looked After Children: 4 (1.02%)

EPIC Speech and Language Therapy:

EPIC Speech and Language Therapy Services is a school led partnership working in harmony with local NHS providers to bridge the gap between what is required by those who have speech, language and communication needs (SLCN) and the services available within the increasingly stretched NHS.

EPIC Speech and Language Therapy at Mowmacre Hill Primary School:

EPIC Speech and Language Therapy currently support Mowmacre Hill Primary School by providing input at all three levels identified by The Balanced System™:



- Universal interventions support the entire population, i.e. whole class or whole school, and ensure all children have appropriate language and communication opportunities. Current support at this level includes the following and is delivered each academic year:
 - General introduction to SLCN training for ALL staff
 - Blank levels training for all teaching and support staff
 - ICW training for EYFS and KS1 staff
 - Communication Friendly Environment support with termly audits
 - Communication Champion training, network sessions and supervision
 - Annual SALT screens for EYFS cohort, SEMH cohort and LAC cohort in autumn term 1
 - Whole school approach to developing oracy and vocabulary using the 'Word Aware' approach including 'Concept Cat'
 - Whole school approach to emotional regulation using 'Zones of Regulation'
 - Communication Milestone Factsheets shared with staff and parents
 - EYFS 'Ready for School' support pack and parent/feeder pre-school workshop disseminated in summer term.
- Targeted interventions offer specific support for those children and young people who are felt to be vulnerable in relation to speech, language and communication. The group is wide ranging and includes children with delayed language and communication skills who following targeted intervention will return to the universal tier, through to identification of children who may go on to have more persistent needs. This level includes small group and individual targeted intervention approaches such as language groups, narrative groups, social communication skills programmes and phonology programmes. Targeted interventions are often led by the Speech and Language Therapy Assistant assigned to Mowmacre Hill Primary School, facilitated by trained support staff in school throughout the week to ensure consistent input is delivered.
- Specialist interventions are in addition to the universal and targeted offer for those children and young people who require a highly individualised and personalised programme of work following an in-depth assessment of their need. This group includes children with complex learning and communication needs and those children who are cognitively able and have specific speech, language or communication needs.

The referral process:

The School SENDCO liaises with school staff about pupils of concern and ensures a RAG rated SALT screen is completed. Upon completion of the SALT screen, if a pupil is highlighted as red in any of the areas of the communication pyramid, the school SENDCO will usually refer to EPIC Speech and Language Therapy for an in-depth assessment and, where necessary, follow up interventions. Additionally, pupils who have been highlighted as amber but made little progress following a 12-week block of targeted intervention led by school staff are often referred for a more in-depth assessment.

The assessment process:

EPIC Speech and Language Therapy conduct in-depth assessments as part of the quality provision we provide and as such, the assessment process includes the following:

- Parental case history
- Class teacher interview
- Informal observations across different contexts in schools
- Completion of a range of formal assessments

- Where necessary, collaboration with other professionals including (but not limited to) Educational Psychologists, NHS SALTs, SEMH team, LCI team, Early Years team, Hearing Impairment team, Visual Impairment team, Community Paediatricians, CAMHS professionals and Social Workers

Assessments include consideration of the means, reasons, and opportunities that the pupil has to communicate as well as the communication friendliness of the classroom environment and focuses on the following:

- Early interaction and attention and listening skills
- Play skills
- Receptive language (understanding)
- Expressive language (use of)
- Pragmatics
- Speech Sounds
- Literacy skills

A detailed report is subsequently written which details any relevant diagnoses made (e.g. Developmental Language Disorder; Speech Sound Disorder) and recommendations for intervention and this is shared with school, parents/carers and any other relevant professionals. Reports are used to secure additional funding and/or support EHCP applications. The Speech and Language Therapist will often refer pupils to other services for further assessment (e.g. Community Paediatrician for ASD pathway assessment) and will attend multidisciplinary team meetings where applicable to contribute to diagnostic discussions re: autism spectrum disorder as well as other diagnoses. Where necessary, the Speech and Language Therapist will also attend annual reviews.

Interventions:

Following screens and/or assessments, a range of targeted and sometimes specialist interventions are delivered in school by the Speech and Language Therapy Assistant to address the SLCN of pupils on roll at Mowmacre Hill Primary School. SMART targets are identified by the Speech and Language Therapist and progress is reviewed on a termly basis using clearly defined outcome measures.

Training opportunities:

As part of their package, Mowmacre Hill have access to a varied training menu that they can use some of their hours toward which can be led as whole school training sessions or targeted staff group training sessions.

Parent/carer support:

EPIC Speech and Language Therapy are also able to provide parent/carer workshops and training as part of the SALT provision Mowmacre Hill Primary School commission.