

Secondary Language Group

Children & Young People's (CYP) Speech & Language Therapy Service



Innovative



Caring



Agile

What is a secondary language group?

The CYP Speech and Language Therapy Service has designed and developed a targeted language group for secondary school students. This group aims to provide equitable and accessible high quality targeted intervention, to enrich the language and communication skills of children across Hertfordshire secondary schools. The group helps students who have language difficulties as their main presenting need, to explore supportive language strategies which can be taken back to the classroom to increase student advocacy and self-management.

We will provide face to face training to set up the programme in your school. We will also visit each school for a follow up session to observe the group and provide advice and feedback. Schools will have the chance to meet with the Therapist at the end of the programme to discuss each student's progress. The group package will come with everything needed to run the group, including either 6 x 1 hour or 12 shorter detailed and easy to follow session plans, resources, advice sheets and tools to track progress & measure outcomes.

How does a secondary language group work?

Students: Schools can identify up to **6 students in KS3** using the tool provided. The groups can be made up of students both on and off the Speech and Language Therapy caseload. We may recommend to schools that specific students would be appropriate for the group.

Staff: School will identify a **member of staff** (e.g. Teaching Assistant) who will produce the required resources within the packs, attend an initial training morning, preferably alongside a SENCO, at a local venue, attend the follow up session with the Therapist in school and lead on delivering the group.

Duration: The sessions can either be delivered weekly or fortnightly. We have two different options for delivering the sessions: 6 x 1 hour sessions or 12 shorter sessions depending on your schools timetable and the needs of your students.

Outcomes: At the end of the group school staff will review the students' progress and return a quick **outcome form** to the Therapist. Schools can then run this group with new cohorts of students. The Therapist will help to identify students who may need further specialist intervention following the group or students whose needs can be met at this targeted level by using their chosen strategies within lessons. For students already on the Speech and Language Therapy caseload, a discussion regarding next steps will take place with school staff and communicated with the family.

How to get involved?

Our secondary language group package is free to access for all mainstream secondary schools in Hertfordshire. If you feel these groups would benefit the students in your school, please get in touch with your local Education Lead. If you would like support in knowing who this person is, you can contact your DSPL Leads or the CYP Therapies admin team.