

Hertfordshire Shining Communication Award

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



Innovative



Caring



Agile

What is the Hertfordshire Shining Communication Award (HSCA)?

HSCA is a tool for schools to use to support and improve the outcomes for those children presenting with speech, language, and communication needs (SLCN). The aim of the tool is to support settings to identify their strengths and areas of development in terms of the support provided for children with SLCN.

How does the HSCA work?

- There are 8 'rays' of the HSCA: families, quality, leadership, intervention, identification, environment, training, knowledge.
- Schools will need to demonstrate that they are at least 'developing' across all 8 of the 'rays'. This will be done through a combination of discussions, observations, and evidence such as completed training records.
- Each school will need to identify 1-2 'Communication Champions' to lead on this award.
- The Speech and Language Therapy Team will provide the following support to help schools achieve the award:
 - 1 virtual training session to provide further information about the tool and get you started
 - An initial virtual meeting with schools to identify their areas of strength and areas for development and set targets
 - A minimum of 2 face to face visits to the school to complete observations
 - Further meetings as required to review progress and update targets
- Once settings have demonstrated that they have met the minimum criteria for each of the rays, the Herts Shining Communication Award will be presented to the setting. We recommend that schools work towards achieving their award within 1 year of attending their initial training session.
- Each school's HSCA status will be reviewed annually to ensure that the high standards are continuing to be met.

How to get involved?

Please contact your local Speech and Language Therapy Education Lead to express an interest in starting your award or have any questions.



www.hct.nhs.uk