

# PINCH OF SALT

A brief update from Children's Speech & Language Therapy Services in Swindon

We wish you all a happy and restful summer holiday!

## Supporting Transitions

September is the time where lots of children transition to a new setting. This may be starting school or moving from one school to another. Children with communication difficulties need extra support over this transition period. For children known to our service, we will provide a "communication passport" to the new setting. The communication passport will help settings to understand the child's communication and key strategies to support the child. Settings can support transitions by:

- Reading through the communication passport and sharing this information with all relevant staff.
- Making up any resources that have been included ahead of the child starting
- Accessing a SENCO drop in session if more discussion and advice is needed.

## Traded Interventions

During the last academic year, our Speech and Language Support Practitioners provided interventions to 30 different schools. Many of these schools are now continuing these interventions themselves and have reported really positive impact. To discuss your needs or to get further information about what we can provide, [Contact us](#)

## SENCO Drop in Sessions

We will continue to run regular online SENCO drop in sessions over the next year, via TEAMS. These sessions enable staff quick and easy access to advice and information. We can discuss children already known to the service as well as supporting staff to decide if a referral to the service is needed.

Staff attending these sessions have fed back that they have found it useful to have ideas to be carrying on with. Attending a SENCO drop in session also provides evidence of a graduated response, if a referral is needed. The dates for terms 1 and 2 are as follows;

- 21.09.23 - 14.00 - 16.00
- 05.10.23 - 14.00 - 16.00
- 25.10.23 - 14.00 - 16.00
- 08.11.23 - 14.00 - 16.00
- 30.11.23 - 14.00 - 16.00
- 14.12.23 - 14.00 - 16.00

To book a slot please [Contact our admin team](#)





## New ways of working

Over the summer we are trying out a new parent group called Communicate and Connect. We are offering intervention as a mix of online and face to face support. The aim of our "Communicate and Connect" sessions is to develop carer's knowledge and understanding of how to support their child. During the sessions we will consider how the child currently communicates and how to support the child to understand the world around them. We will also explore how carers can interpret their child's communication and help their child to express themselves, in whatever way they can.

The group will consist of four online sessions and one stay and play session. We will collect feedback from parents to measure the impact and see if this is something that we continue to offer.

DON'T FORGET TO KEEP CHECKING OUR PAGES ON THE [LOCAL OFFER](#) FOR FURTHER INFO AND ADVICE:



## Dates for the diary: (Book via the [hub for education](#))

- **21.09.23** - Supporting communication skills in early years
- **28.09.23** - Screening and referring to Speech and Language Therapy (formally BRISC)
- **04.10.23** - Going to School Introductory Workshop
- **11.10.23 /18.10.23** - Signalong Foundation course
- **01.11.23** - Supporting communication skills in early years -
- **24.11.23** - Screening and referring to Speech and Language Therapy (formally BRISC)
- **30.11.23**- Going to School Introductory Workshop



Wild in Art's first ever balloon dog sculpture is coming to Swindon over the summer.

This is a great opportunity to get Swindon talking- see our Lets Talk "Swindogs" edition for lots of ideas.