Speech and Language Support at Parklands

At Parklands, we provide specialist NHS speech and language support for children across the school who have speech, language, and communication difficulties.

Early Identification and Support

If your child is identified as having additional speech, language, or communication needs, it is vital that support is put in place as early as possible. Class teachers will discuss any concerns with our SENDCo, Miss Woodcock, to determine the most appropriate provision. Parents and carers will be contacted to discuss the next steps and how best to support their child.

NHS Speech and Language Therapy

We are fortunate to have an NHS Speech and Language Therapist working in school twice a week. She provides 1:1 and small group sessions for children with more complex speech and language needs.

Where necessary, the NHS team may refer pupils to specialist services, such as the Stammering Team or the Speech Sound Disorder Team, for further assessment and support. Our Speech and Language Therapist may contact families directly when appropriate and is always happy to answer any questions.

Support from Trained Teaching Assistants

In addition to the direct support from NHS professionals, our Teaching Assistants receive ongoing training from the NHS team to deliver targeted speech and language interventions in school. These trained TAs regularly work with pupils and focus on key areas including:

- Speech sounds
- Expressive language
- Understanding of language
- Social skills
- Word finding
- Attention
- Working and auditory memory
- Information processing
- Intensive Interaction
- Pathway of Support

When speech and language needs are identified, the class teacher and SENCO will decide whether support from a trained TA is appropriate, or if a referral to the NHS Speech and Language Therapist is required. Parents will always be consulted as part of this process.

If a referral is made, an assessment will be carried out by the NHS Speech and Language Therapist. A written report will follow, including SMART targets tailored to your child's specific needs. These targets will be implemented in school and supported by both the class teacher and the TA.