

Speech & Language Therapy at Heron Academy

Speech and Language Therapy (SaLT) Services are provided to Heron Academy through the company Therapy Links UK CIC. Heron Academy is a highly specialist school with specialist staff who have experience of working with pupils with high communication support needs. We are aware that all pupils attending Heron Academy have communication needs, it is therefore important that all pupils have their communication needs met all day every day whilst at school. Communication skills are best developed when supported in this way.

The SaLT team provide communication support within a **universal**, **targeted** and **specialist** model. In this way we are able to support the communication needs of the pupils in a responsive and effective way.

For the majority of pupils attending Heron Academy their communication needs are met by the **Universal** and **Targeted** provision. A small number of pupils will require discrete blocks of **Specialist** support when specific communication needs arise.



What Does Communication Support Look Like at Heron Academy?

Universal Support*

- Staff training by the SaLT team
- In class communication observations with school leadership
 - Input into school policy and curriculum
 - Supporting the school communication team
- Monthly meeting with the Heron Academy multi disciplinary team • Weekly meetings with school leadership

Targeted Support*

- Working together with teachers to set termly communication targets for all pupils
- Planning and leading lessons alongside teaching staff
- Supporting school staff to regularly run a range of communication groups
- Supporting staff to update EHCP goals at key points of transition
- Termly meeting with class teachers to discuss communication needs in class
- Regular blocks of whole class support
- Demonstrating use of communication systems and how to implement communication supports
- Problem solving meetings with class teams
- Providing advice regarding whole school communication initiatives and maintaining a communication friendly environment

Specialist Support*

- Communication assessment
- Review of EHCP advice regarding communication need
 - Setting up a communication system
 - Attending an Annual Review meeting

Please contact the school directly should you require further information about the communication support provided at Heron Academy

*NOTE All Information correct as of September 2024. Activities described are typical examples and not an exhaustive list