



Vernon Park



Primary School

An exciting place to learn, an exciting place to be.



Speech and Language Centre

Welcome to the Speech and Language Centre

Places in our Speech and Language Centre cater for children aged 3 to 5 years old with specific language difficulties. Nursery aged children must be in their pre-school Nursery year. Children working in the centre are part of our wider school community.

Staff

Mrs V Stone Class Teacher (Mon - Tues)
Mrs D White Class Teacher (Wed - Fri)
Mrs J Ellison Speech & Language Therapist

The Centre also has one full time Teaching Assistant and a dedicated Lunchtime Assistant.

Referrals

It is not possible to apply for a place at the Centre directly. Children must be referred by the Speech Therapy service.

The Centre always has a waiting list. This means that newly referred children will only be assessed when places become available. Places become available on a rolling program as and when children already at the centre are ready to leave. This could be any time throughout the year. You will be contacted by telephone to discuss and arrange an assessment for your child.

Visiting the Centre

Often visiting the Centre helps parents/carers decide if they want their child to be referred. Please discuss the referral process with your speech and language therapist. After this discussion has taken place you are more than welcome to contact us to arrange a visit.

What your child will need

Spare set of clothes (including underwear and socks)
Outdoor clothes depending on weather (sun hat, warm waterproof coat, gloves)
A book bag
A water bottle
Inhaler (if needed)

Contact Details

Any questions? Please don't hesitate to give us a ring.

Vernon Park School

Peak Street,
Stockport, SK1 2NF
Telephone: 0161 4804378
Email: headteacher@vernnonpark.stockport.sch.uk

Stockport Speech and Language Therapy Service

Beckwith House,
8th Floor ,
Regent House,
Heaton Lane,
Stockport. SK4 1BS
Telephone: 0161 426 5200/5201
Email: cypdisp@nhs.net

Homework

There are different types of homework which will be given:

1. Each child has a speech and language therapy book which has activities to practise at home (little and often is best).
2. Specific homework given by the class teacher. This is based on a child's individual needs and will often be different to what the other children in their class get.
3. As soon as your child is ready they will get a reading book to read at home with targets to work on each week.

Home School Communication

Each child will have a home-school-diary and a speech and language therapy book.

The home-school-diary is for communication between the teacher, teaching assistants and parent/carer. These books are not used for daily updates about what your child has done in school. The VLE (Virtual Learning Environment, see below) is used to show what your child has been doing in school.

The speech and language therapy book is for communication between the speech therapist and parent/carers.

Twitter

Vernon Park has a Twitter page which we use to inform you of current learning, sharing children's work and keeping you up to date with any school events. This is updated by staff regularly.

Assessments

You will be contacted by telephone to arrange a 2 week Assessment - 10 days, mornings only. Children being assessed will be involved in the same routines as the other children in the centre. This will include snack times (please inform us of any food allergies), assemblies, group activities and outdoor activities.

Ideally your child should be toilet trained before they come for the assessment. If your child is still in nappies, we will discuss changing arrangements with you. We are happy to change your child but if you would prefer to come into school to change your child yourself, please let us know.

Please send a spare set of clothes, warm coat, hat/gloves, sun hat, etc (depending on weather). Also, if your child needs an inhaler, you must send this with your child every day of the assessment.

Getting a Place

At the end of the assessment period your child may be offered a place at the Centre. We will also arrange a meeting with you to discuss the outcome of our teacher and speech and language assessments. Please note that children are not always eligible for a place at the Centre and if this is the case it will be discussed with you.

Transport

If transport to and from school is going to be difficult, it may be possible to get funded transport. This is a taxi service with a chaperone. It is only available to Reception children. If you wish to apply for transport you will need to deal with the transport office directly, but we can provide you with contact details and the application form.

Educational Psychologist Visits

Three times a year we have an Educational Psychologist who visits children in the Centre. You will be involved in the referral process and we will inform you about when the Educational Psychologist will be visiting. After this visit, you will get a detailed report from the Educational Psychologist.

Leaving the Centre

Every child is different and will require a different amount of time at the Centre before they move back to their mainstream school. Children are constantly assessed and reviewed throughout their time at the Centre and we will always let you know as soon as we think your child is ready to leave. Their move to mainstream will always coincide with a school holiday (i.e. not necessarily a September start).

A transition meeting will be organised with parents/carers, class teacher, speech and language therapist, the special needs coordinator and teacher from your child's new school. During the meeting transition days to the new school will be organised. These will take place before the official start date at their new school.

Referral to Bradshaw Hall

If by the end of your child's Reception year they need to continue to access intensive speech and language therapy, they will be referred to Bradshaw Hall Speech and Language Centre for assessment.

The decision to refer your child will only be made with parents/carers consent. We also take into account the educational psychologist views and reports.

Parents Evenings

There are two formal parents evenings a year which will be led by the class teacher and speech therapist. During these meetings your child's individual speech targets will be discussed. If you would like to meet with the teacher and/or speech therapist at other times during the year, we are happy to arrange additional meetings.

A Typical Day at the Centre

The children work mostly 1:1 and in groups with the teacher, speech therapist and teaching assistants. This will include daily speech therapy and curriculum work. When children start at the centre they can sometimes find the days quite intense. But don't worry, the children soon get used to it.

Children are involved in whole school assemblies. They have a snack in the morning and the afternoon (please inform us if your child has any allergies).

Some lessons may include children from the other Reception and Nursery classes and sometimes your child might work with other teachers in other classes for specific lessons. The children also take part in child-led learning sessions. This means the children are free to choose what activities they do in other EYFS classrooms and in the outside areas. This is an excellent opportunity for the children to mix with the other Nursery and Reception classes.

Curriculum

The Speech and Language Centre follows the Early Years Foundation Stage Curriculum (EYFS) and work parallel to the other Reception and Nursery classes at Vernon Park Primary.