



## Young Person Case Study

Young person: L      Date: 19.12.2018      Age: 14

**Case Study Focus:** to develop L's speech sound system and improve clarity.

**Background:** L has been previously assessed by SALT and this identified a range of phonological processes which negatively impact on the clarity of her speech. L benefits from listeners familiarising themselves with her speech sound system in order to best understand her. She has also developed some supportive strategies independently which include; taking people/bringing items to adults, using gesture and simple mime as well as repeating herself when asked.

She has previously received a block of 1:1 input, alongside targeted embedding in the classroom to focus on the production of the 'sh' sound. After making progress with this, and achieving correct phrase level production, it was discussed with staff that 'ch' would be focused on during the initial part of this academic year.

### **What I did:**

A speech sound programme was developed for L, which included a range of pictures, games and activities. This was provided and demonstrated to TA's who agreed to complete the pack regularly with L. A record form was created for staff to note how L performed during these targeted sessions. L received weekly therapy from SALT to monitor progress, discuss strategies with staff and move L on to the next stage of the programme as required.

A therapy plan was created for L outlining the steps to progress through:

1. *L will be able to produce an accurate 'ch' sound in isolation.*
2. *L will be able to produce 'ch' accurately in word initial position in CV nonsense words.*

3. *L will be able to produce 'ch' in word initial position in a range of multisyllabic words.*
4. *L will be able to produce 'ch' accurately in word initial position in a range of multisyllabic words in a short, familiar phrase (I've got...)*

#### Outcomes:

L's therapy plan was updated in December 2018. Following reassessment of her 'ch' production at each of these stages, along with evaluation of the completed record forms and conversations with staff, L was found to have achieved each of these targets.

Liaison with relevant staff has occurred in order to demonstrate the next stage. L's speech sound target is currently:

*L will be able to produce 'ch' accurately in word initial position in a range of multisyllabic words in a range of phrases.*

This target is much more complex in that it involves her moving her articulatory muscles into the 'ch' position from a wider range of other sounds. Future targets will then be around generalising this skill to other settings, less structured tasks and ultimately into her everyday speech sound repertoire.

L SALT update report has since been created which outlines her progress. This has been submitted for her January 2019 EHCP.

#### Conclusion and Evaluation:

L's speech sounds are likely to continue to require specialist input in order to develop. Due to her age, progress may take time however she appears motivated to learn and is always keen to engage in 1:1 therapy sessions.

L also has other SALT targets running in tandem with this, predominantly around social interaction and conversation skills.

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