03/06/2024

**Communicate SLT CIC – An update for parents/carers**

Dear parent/carer

We took over the provision of speech, language and communication (SLC) services in October 2023 from the previous provider Chatterbug. At that time, we had received limited information about the caseload in the borough however we continue to gather this information from parents and professionals involved with the children and young people of Halton who have concerns about their speech, language and communication.

We have since transfer of service, been working on the priorities of the commissioners which include assessing children with dysphagia, those in need of assessment as part of an EHCP application and those who have been waiting longest for an assessment as part of their ASD pathway diagnosis.

To date we have received over 1,500 Requests and are reviewing, as fast as we can, what the likely needs of that caseload are; we expect to receive more Requests for Service in time, hence us sending you this update.

Communicate SLT would recommend completing a [Request for Service](https://referrals.cslt.org.uk/request-for-pediatric-speech-and-language-therapy-service.php) for any child or young person who you believe we should have on our radar for SLC. You could submit this yourself or if able/preferred, ask a trusted professional to do the same.

If you have any questions about our request today, please don’t hesitate to get in touch using the contact number and email address below.

We thank you for your patience while we continue to make progress.

Best wishes for now

**Verity Bell**

Operations Lead