

Specialist Resourced Provision for Children with Hearing Loss/Deaf children.

Park View Primary School follows the principles of Hampshire's Communication Policy for Deaf Children.

At Park View we want the children in the Resourced Provision to:

- be able to express themselves confidently through whichever communication mode is most appropriate for them
- have equality of access to the curriculum and all areas of school life through effective communication
- be able to communicate socially with both their mainstream peers and their deaf peer group
- understand that communication is a two-way process
- feel that their mode of communication and contributions are valued

At Park View the communication mode used with each child is dependent upon individual children's need and we recognise that this may change over time or depending on the context in which the child finds themselves. The mode of communication offered could include British Sign Language (BSL), Sign Supported English (SSE) and/or an oral approach and should reflect the support documented in the child's Education, Health and Care Plan (EHCP).

For Resourced Provision children who use Sign Language during the school day (as stated in their EHCP), this is provided through interpretation in mainstream classes, in assemblies, performances and on school trips for example. This interpretation is provided in either BSL or SSE, dependent on the child's need, by Communication Support Assistants (CSAs) and Teachers of the Deaf. A Deaf Instructor works with the deaf children, usually on a fortnightly basis, to help support their preferred communication mode. Mainstream children are encouraged to learn and feel confident with some basic Sign Language through regular exposure to this communication mode in day-to-day activities in school and through the teaching of BSL in class lessons in KS2. Displays and notices around the school building often include Sign Language and should also serve to help all children see it as a valued form of communication. School staff are encouraged to learn and use 30 key signs in their classes.

All children within the Resourced Provision have an individual communication plan which is shared with all staff working with the child and is updated and reviewed at least yearly or sooner if needed. We work in collaboration with parents and resources and ideas to support communication skills are shared wherever possible. Adults in the school receive Deaf awareness in-service training and have ongoing support from Teachers of the Deaf. Those working within the Resourced Provision are supported in continuing to develop their skills, in the use of Sign Language, specific speech and language work or specialised

communication equipment. A Speech and Language Therapist (SaLT) visits the provision regularly and our CSAs and Teachers of the Deaf deliver the programmes set by the therapist.

Children's communication skills are monitored closely by Resourced Provision staff in collaboration with parents, mainstream staff and other professionals such as the SaLT, Cochlear Implant and Audiology staff. Communication and language targets are included in children's Individual Education Plans (IEPs).

This policy will be made available to parents and school staff. It will be reviewed annually by the Teacher of the Deaf, in consultation with the Head Teacher.

Date: April 2026

Next review date: April 2027