Confidentiality
All our staff are required to abide by a strict code of conduct on confidentiality. We will only share information with those who need to know in order to provide good quality care. Occasionally there may be exceptions to this, for example to support a clinical audit or to monitor the quality of care provided. We will usually discuss this with you beforehand.

Your opinion matters
We are committed to providing the highest standards of care, so we welcome your views on the services we provide. If you would like to comment, make a suggestion or make a complaint, please speak to the person you normally see or ask to speak to the team manager. You may also like to speak to our Patient Advice and Liaison Service (PALS) by ringing 020 8308 5449.

How to contact us
Speech and Language Therapy Service
Children and Young People’s Services
Acorns, Queen Mary’s Hospital,
Frogнал Avenue, Sidcup,
Kent DA14 6LT

T: 0203 004 0092
E: oxl-tr.bexleyscs-spa@nhs.net

NB: this address is for administration queries only. Your appointment will take place at one of our community clinics. Please see your appointment letter for details.
Who we are
A small team of Speech and Language therapists who are experienced in working with young people with a wide range of communication needs. The team falls within the Social, Emotional and Mental Health needs Team.
We assess speech, language and communication difficulties to help establish the young person’s strengths and weaknesses in communication which may be impacting on engagement in school, learning, social communication and independence.

What we do?
We can offer:
• Advice
• Assessment of speech, language and communication needs
• Parent meetings
• Liaison with schools / colleges
• Liaison with learning mentors/ case workers within the Youth Offending Service
• Training for professionals working within the Youth Offending Service
We belong to the Joint Communication Team, a team of health and education professionals that supports pupils with communication difficulties who attend mainstream schools.

Why do we work with these children/ young people?
• There is an evidence base that children with unrecognised and unresolved communication disabilities are more likely to develop mental health problems and/or to offend.
• Nationally, 60% of young offenders have speech, language and communication needs.

Referrals
Referrals are made by the members of the Youth Offending Service e.g. Caseworkers, YOT Nurse.

Further information
The Communication Trust website provides a wide range of information and resources of the evidence between language difficulties and offending for parents/carers.

Resources and Advice
www.ican.org.uk
www.thecommunicationtrust.org.uk
www.talkingpoint.org.uk
www.rcslt.org

This leaflet is about the joint work between the Speech and Language therapy service and the Local Authority Youth Offending Service. It is for parents/carers of children and young people and young people themselves who experience difficulties with communication skills. It explains what we do and how to make a referral to us.