

Working Together

Supporting and developing children's communication skills is a shared responsibility. The best way of helping your child's communication skills is by parents, carers, teaching staff and therapists working together. This involves sharing information and practical ideas on how to help. Communication difficulties are often more appropriately managed in the classroom and at home, where skills can be developed in a meaningful environment.

Consent

Your consent is needed when your child is referred to the NHS speech and language therapy service.

Our Service at Pitcheroak School.

The NHS speech and language therapy service provide a school based service for all children who attend Pitcheroak School.

Dani and Alexis work closely with teaching staff and are available every Friday in school.

Children are observed in lessons to see how they communicate in a larger group. Individual assessment and input is sometimes necessary and this is carried out by the speech and language therapists.

Discussion with teaching staff about your child helps us to jointly set targets and suggest strategies to help support them in class.

If you would like to find out more contact us at school on a Friday on **01527 65576**

At any other time in the week you can contact us on **01527 488326**.

Therapist's Email:

danielle.betts@nhs.net
a.crabtree@nhs.net

DID YOU KNOW



1 Occasionally children can benefit from regular direct input from an SLT. If this is the case then additional speech and language therapy can be bought from us.

2 Because we're part of the NHS, our costs are highly competitive starting at just £55 per hour for a fully qualified therapist

3 We will only sell what you need – public funds are limited so we aim to provide services that are sustainable, efficient and value for money

4 Your therapist is supported by the experience and expertise of a team of more than 60 therapists, assistants and specialist teachers

5 Buying from us is hassle free - all of our therapists are RCSLT and HCPC registered, DBS checked, fully trained, supervised and working within safe to practice clinical guidelines. We take full clinical accountability for all of our staff so you don't

For more information: Emma Jordan, Speech & Language Therapy Service at Emma.Jordan@hacw.nhs.uk or on 01562 752749

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and news about our
service follow us on
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SLT_Worcs



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Worcestershire Speech
and Language Therapy

Worcestershire Health and Care 
NHS Trust



**NHS SPEECH AND
LANGUAGE THERAPY
AT PITCHEROAK
SCHOOL**

Dani Betts and Alexis Crabtree



Speech and Language Therapy Service
Worcestershire Health and Care NHS Trust

Catshill Clinic

The Dock

Catshill

B61 0NJ

Tel: 01527 488326

Top Ten Tips to Support your Child's Communication

1. Get their Attention!

- When children are absorbed in another activity it can be hard to listen. Say their name first to get their attention and make sure they are looking at you.

2. Vocabulary is key.

- Help children of all ages by using all their senses to teach new words. Then build in lots of repetition and practice.

3. Build on what they say.

- When your child says a word or phrase, repeat it back and add an extra word e.g. "car", "Yes, red car"

4. Take Turns.

- Play simple turn taking games to encourage your child to take part in a social activity and wait for their turn.

5. Be careful with questions.

- When adults use comments and prompts rather than questions, children join in and talk a lot more.

6. Make language learning fun!

- Play around with words, make up silly rhymes and clap out the beats in words.

7. Give your child time.

- Children need time to process what others have said, work out what they are going to say and how they are going to say it. Count silently to ten in your head when you have given an instruction,

8. Be animated

- Use facial expression and tone of voice to show that you are listening, happy to wait and enjoying what they are saying.

9. Keep your language simple.

- Sometimes children can only process one or two words in a sentence. Using language that is too complex will stop them listening to you.

10. Use pictures, signs and visual prompts to support spoken language.

- If your child is using PECS, has a communication book or a communication aid, speak to us about how you can use these resources and strategies at home.

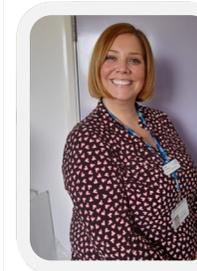
Dani has been working as a Speech and Language therapist since 2008, and has worked for the Worcestershire Speech and Language Therapy team since 2012.



Dani supports the students across all key stages at Pitcheroak School. During the rest of the week she has a caseload that includes:

- One middle-school Mainstream Autism Base
- Two high-school Mainstream Autism Bases
- A mainstream primary school in Redditch

Alexis has worked for the Worcestershire Speech and Language Therapy team since 2018.



Alexis supports the students across all key stages at Pitcheroak School. During the rest of the week she has a caseload that includes:

- Early Years clinics
- Another local special school
- First and Senior School Autism Bases
- Mainstream schools in and around Bromsgrove.