

What are Speech, Language and Communication Needs?



How does SLCN affect my child?

Speech, Language and Communication Needs (SLCN) describes difficulties across one or many aspects of communication including:

- problems with producing speech sounds accurately
- stammering
- voice problems, such as hoarseness and loss of voice
- problems understanding language (making sense of what people say)
- problems using language (words and sentences)
- problems interacting with others. For example, difficulties understanding the non-verbal rules of good communication or using language in different ways to question, clarify or describe things.

These may be things you have noticed at home as well as at school.



The impact of SLCN

15% of pupils with identified SLCN achieved the expected standard in reading, writing and mathematics at the end of primary school

81% of children with emotional and behavioural disorders have unidentified language difficulties

60% of young offenders have low language skills