



**Hello and welcome to your May issue of The Link Community News.**

We are still buzzing from The Link Live Speech & Language Day 2026, really great insight from our speakers and a record number of attendees on the day. More about that in a minute.

In this newsletter you'll find out about our new partnership and creation of a speech and language apprenticeship qualification; how our therapists are helping support the Youth Justice System in Medway, Kent and, of course, the latest speech and language news from the UK and around the globe.

Have a lovely half term!

Best wishes, *The Link Community Team*

**LinkLive**

Free Annual Speech & Language Conference  
30th April

Produced by The Link Community

**Over 400 delegates  
attended live**

**On-demand sessions  
released monthly**

**The Link Live Speech & Language Day 2026** was a resounding success!

We were delighted to welcome educators and professionals from across the UK as well as across the world - great to say hello to delegates from South Africa, Australia, Europe, The Middle East and Asia!

All members will be given access to the recordings of each presentation to watch on-demand over the next few months.

First up is **Ali Neal's session** - *Regulation through the senses for children with SLCN using the BREAD approach.*

[Access Ali's full recording and slides here](#)



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## Building expertise in speech, language and communication



**Best Practice Network**

**Best Practice Network and Speech & Language Link** are excited to introduce the first speech and language apprenticeship for schools.

The Speech, Language and Communication Support Practitioner apprenticeship brings together Best Practice Network's expertise in apprenticeship delivery with the specialist speech and language knowledge from Speech & Language Link .

[Find out more](#)

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## The Link magazine

Look out for the spring issues of *The Link magazine* after half term. We're particularly excited that **Oracy takes centre stage in both the *Primary* and *Secondary* versions** with lots of information, tips and activities to help you support oracy skills with your learners with SLCN.



## ***The Link Primary* lands from 1 June**

## ***The Link Secondary* follows from 15 June**

Until now, *The Link* has been sent out to all UK primary schools. Going forward, it will be sent to schools using **Little Link**, **Speech Link** or **Language Link** packages, as well as members of **The Link Community** who've added their school address to their account. If that's you, nothing changes - you'll keep receiving your copy as usual!

### **Didn't receive your copy?**

Log in to [The Link Community](#) now and update your delivery preferences to make sure future issues reach your school.

Here's how:

1. **Log in** to The Link Community
2. Click your **username** on the top right corner
3. Select **Manage My Free Account**
4. Click **Update Account**
5. Use **Search Postcode to** find your UK school
6. If your school isn't listed, please **add your address manually**
7. **Save** your changes

If you would like a copy of *The Link Primary*, issue 35 then contact our editor at: [claire.chambers@speechlink.co.uk](mailto:claire.chambers@speechlink.co.uk) and we'll include you in a one-off second mailing.

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## Introducing the Youth Justice SLCN Tool

Over 60% of young people in the youth justice system have SLCN and yet very few are identified before entering the system. **The Speech & Language Link** team and **Medway Council** came together to address the challenge and the result is a therapist-designed digital resource that supports identification and provides meaningful, practical support.

Click below find out more about the Youth Justice SLCN Tool and how it could support your service visit

[Find out more](#)

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## Speech and Language News

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“My speech therapist gave me the chance to rejoin the world”

[Read →](#)

A safer journey: personalised seatbelt covers for neurodivergent individuals

[Read →](#)

Alogia: why speaking can feel harder than it should

[Read →](#)

‘Parentese’ helps babies pay attention to speech, recognise patterns and engage socially

[Read →](#)

King’s Trust award for 20-year-old with language difficulties

[Read →](#)

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# Join us on Facebook!

## Be a member of Speech and Language Support for Schools

This is our supportive, friendly Facebook group for those working with children with speech and language needs in school, pre-school and nursery settings. Here, you can share advice, pick up ideas, celebrate successes and feel supported.



Join Now

7000+ of you now subscribe to the Speech & Language News, thank you so much for being part of our community.

Why not forward this email to colleagues you think might also be interested? [They can subscribe directly here.](#)



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