

Welcome to your October issue of The Link Community News.

Welcome back after term! This October issue is coming to you a bit later than normal, however with disrupted sleep patterns, seasonal bugs, the longest teaching stretch of the year and that final window of calm before Christmas, there's a lot to contend with. Phew!

BUT… by now, routines are settling into place, you're getting to know your new cohort and those initial assessments are probably complete. You'll also be building a much clearer picture of where support is needed across your setting. And that's where we hope we can help.

We've got lots to share this month, from our new **DLD collection** and **free Inclusion Strategy Webinar** to a practical **Inclusion Readiness Checklist** and the new Speech & Language Link Certificate in SLCN Support.

PHP Security Update: Why Speech & Language Link Was Temporarily Unavailable
Recently, a critical security vulnerability affecting PHP, a technology used by websites and online services worldwide, was disclosed.

As a precaution, we temporarily suspended access to Speech & Language Link websites while our technical team assessed the risk, applied security updates and carried out user testing.
Although we had no evidence that our systems had been compromised, we believed that acting quickly was the most responsible way to protect the information entrusted to us by schools, settings and families.

Following these checks and updates, services were safely restored, and we found no evidence of unauthorised access to customer data.
Thank you for your patience and understanding shown by our customers while this work was carried out.

Grab your favourite hot brew and take five to catch up on the latest speech and language news, what's new for The Link Community and more about that **SLCN Support certificate.**

Best wishes, *The Link Community Team*

Is communication at the heart of your inclusion strategy?



Our webinar, **Implementing Speech, Language and Communication in your Inclusion Strategy**, is now available to watch on-demand.

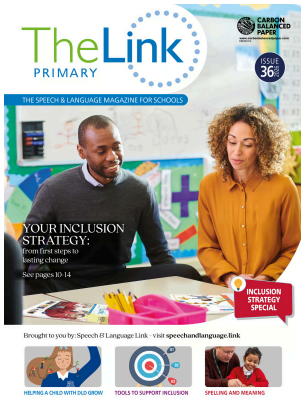
Join Kate Freeman, consultant - speech and language in education, as she explores the vital role speech, language and communication play in successful inclusion, with practical insights to help you build a more inclusive, communication-supportive school for every child.

Watch on-demand here

The Link magazine

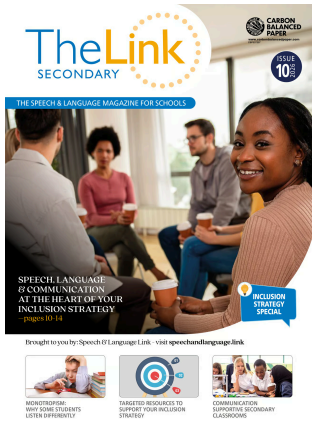
The latest issues of **The Link** magazines will now be in your settings. Our new Primary and Secondary editions are both **Inclusion Strategy Specials**, packed with practical advice, expert insights and ideas to help put SLCN at the heart of your inclusion strategy. Keep an eye out for your copy and discover how small changes can make a big difference to outcomes for children and young people.

The Link Primary



Read issue 36

The Link Secondary



Read issue 10

Continue the conversation about DLD

DLD Awareness Day (16 October) may be over for another year, but understanding developmental language disorder and how we can support children and young

people matters all year round.

Our **DLD Collection** brings together The Link magazine articles, Link Live presentations and blogs from our archive, making it easy to explore DLD and practical approaches to support.

Take a look now while the collection is open to everyone for a limited time. After which, access will be exclusive to The Link Community members.



Explore the collection

Taking a trauma-informed approach

How can we make assessment and intervention feel safe and supportive for every pupil?

Our new Speech Link and Language Link guidance shares practical ways to take a trauma-informed approach, helping you consider when, where and how assessments and interventions are delivered.

Find out more about the Little Link, Speech Link and Language Link assessments and interventions.

Find out more

NEW The Speech & Language Link Certificate in SLCN Support

Give support staff greater confidence in supporting SLCN.

Could your support staff feel more confident recognising and responding to pupils with speech, language and communication needs?

Launching this November, our new e-learning course gives TAs and LSAs the practical knowledge and strategies they need to support communication, learning and participation in the classroom.



Created by our specialist speech and language therapists, the course combines seven flexible, self-directed modules with real-life case studies, practical strategies, video demonstrations and two live Q&A webinars, with learning tailored to primary and secondary settings.

Build confidence. Strengthen inclusive practice. Help every pupil take part.

Find out more and register interest

NEW SLCN Inclusion Readiness Checklist

How inclusive is your approach to speech, language and communication?



Speech, language and communication (SLC) skills underpin learning, relationships, emotional development, participation and wellbeing. They're also an important part of inclusion, supporting pupils with a wide range of SEND, not just those with identified speech, language and communication needs.

Our **SLC and Inclusion Checklist** will help you reflect on how well SLCN are understood, identified and supported across your school or setting. Your results will highlight your strengths and areas for development, linked to the key areas in the Department for Education's inclusion strategy template.



Complete the checklist

Speech and Language News

Secondary Language Link at the heart of inclusion

Read➞

Education secretary says oracy will become a core part of the curriculum

Read➞

School wellbeing lower among young people with SEN or living in poverty, study finds

Read➞

Guidance helps providers navigate screen use for under-5s

Read➞

Government being asked to publish a strategy tackling waiting times and unequal access to speech and language therapy

Read➞

Global study finds that the effect of high screen time on children is as significant as parental behaviour and premature birth

Read➞

Hounslow newborns to receive a library card

Read➞

Join us on Facebook!

Be a member of Speech and Language Support for Schools

Join our 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 Link Community newsletter. Thank you so much for being part of our speech and language community.
Why not forward this email to colleagues you think might also be interested? They can subscribe directly here.

Sent to:helpdesk@speechlink.co.uk

Unsubscribe

Speech Link Multimedia Ltd, Canterbury Innovation Centre University Road, Canterbury, Kent, CT2 7FG, United Kingdom