



## Wargrave House 'The Autism Specialists'

# Speech & Language Therapy Department

# SaLT



**'Wargrave House  
is an exceptional  
school'**

OFSTED 2014

**"The quality and  
consistency of care  
that residential  
pupils receive is  
outstanding"**

OFSTED Residential  
Inspection 2017

**'Students love  
coming to school'**

OFSTED 2014

**"Wargrave House is a service  
that enables some very  
vulnerable young people to  
develop a sense of  
belonging, ownership and  
community that enhances  
their wellbeing and self-  
esteem which results in very  
positive outcomes for  
students and their families."**

NAS Accreditation 2018

# Mission Statement

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**“To enable all students at Wargrave House to reach their maximum communicative potential”**

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Wargrave House employs four Speech and Language Therapists and a Speech and Language Therapy Assistant. The therapists play an active, integral role throughout the school and college, they are committed to contributing to an enriched environment whereby every aspect of communication and social skills development is positively promoted.

Our role includes assessment, devising and monitoring communication targets, individual and group speech, language and communication therapy, emotional literacy (including wellbeing and relaxation training), social/life skills training, therapy inclusion consultation and advice. The department offers in service and external training.

## Intervention

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Due to the pervasive nature of ASD and the necessity for emphasis on an ‘holistic’ approach to communication, intervention from the Speech & Language Therapy department has to be diverse and innovative. SaLTs work closely with the Occupational Therapists (OT) and music therapist embracing multi-disciplinary working.

In addition to the more conventional practise of withdrawing children for therapy, we also work alongside students and staff in the classroom, dining room and community e.g. educational visits, work experience, college and also after school in the residential setting. This promotes generalisation of skills and increases our understanding of each individual student and how they respond to/behave in different environments. In addition, we offer parents home visits during school holidays to discuss progress and methods of transferring skills from school to the home. This practise helps the promotion and generalisation of communication skills across different contexts.

**In short, wherever the children go, we go too!**

## Communication Approaches

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A range of communication approaches are used, as therapy is tailored to meet the very individual needs of each of our students. These include:

Narrative Therapy  
'Picture Exchange Communication System' (PECS)  
T.E.A.C.C.H.  
Social Stories  
Alternative & augmentative communication devices (iPads, iPods etc)  
Social/Life Skills Training  
Drama & Role Play  
Intensive Interaction etc.

## Collaborative Partnerships

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The Speech & Language Therapy team recognise that working together with teachers, carers and parents enables us all to better understand the nature and form of each individual's specific communication issues.

We all share the same goal to help those in our care to achieve their communication potential.

## Outreach Therapy Services

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The Therapy team at Wargrave House extend their services by sharing with a variety of organisations, on or off site.

Bespoke packages are tailored to meet the needs of individuals with ASD, from early years to adulthood, as well as those responsible for their education, care and well-being.

This is achieved via training, consultation and advice for developing Speech & Language Therapy/Occupational Therapy services and therapy intervention packages.

For more information on our Outreach Services please contact Jackie McCann, Head of Therapy Services.

*“Thank you—  
again for all of  
your support &  
incredible  
ability to find  
new, effective  
strategies to  
help my son”*

Parent

*“C has made  
huge progress  
thanks to your  
amazing  
abilities to  
look beyond  
what everyone  
else only  
sees!”*

Parent

## Enquiries

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“All the SaLT are excellent in their passion to encourage children like Lewis who is non-verbal to communicate their needs to their full potential”

*Parent*

