



Inclusive Learning

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Open Letter to Parents of students in Kindergarten

Re: Speech-Language Pathology services in SD 61 for K students

Parents of kindergarten students in **most** elementary schools in the Greater Victoria School District (SD 61) can expect that their child will be screened for speech and language skills in the fall of the kindergarten year and that the parents will be notified if there are concerns about screened skill areas.

If a parent has a concern around the need for speech/language services for their child, the parent may speak to either:

- a. their child's classroom teacher, either at the kindergarten orientation day held at the school in the spring or in their child's K classroom early in the fall. The teacher can bring the concern to the school based team for team consideration of a referral to the S-LP (speech-language pathologist), or
- b. the school S-LP, either by appointment on the day of the week the S-LP is working at the school or by email.

Reports from agencies providing services during preschool years are not always on file at the school; if the parent has such reports, the school S-LP would love to see/receive copies of these reports in order to fill in background information and to inform any action plans.

Parents should also be aware that speech-language services within the school district are provided within each school based on both caseload, school and student priorities and on the the severity of each student's needs. **All these factors are considered for each student on the caseload.** An attempt will be made to provide appropriate services for every child referred. Some of the client-specific services potentially available to/required by students include face-to-face activities such as assessment and therapy, either individual or group. Other client-specific but non face-to-face activities include consultation with and training of staff members, goal setting and support for development and implementation of IEP goals, program planning and provision of materials and resources to staff and/or family members.

We look forward to seeing your child at school and hope that in the meantime, you have a lovely and highly communicative time with your child.

The Speech-Language Pathologists of Greater Victoria School District