

# HOW CAN WE HELP IN SCHOOL? KS3 & KS4

## Speech Sound Difficulties

- Listen to what the pupil is saying rather than how they are saying it
- When a pupil says a word incorrectly, acknowledge what they have said and repeat the words back to them so that they hear the correct version
- Encourage the use of sign / gesture / facial expression / drawing / writing (if needed) to help the pupil get their message across
- DO NOT try to teach the pupil to say words differently
- If you are carrying out a speech programme from a speech and language therapist it is important that you only work on the targets set. You may be asked to work on auditory discrimination skills before targeting production of a particular sound consistently or be asked to practise the sound in isolation before moving on to words beginning with sound
- Pupils often need lots of practice to generalise skills when they are learning speech sounds. For example, they may be able to say the target words when they are practising 1:1 with you, but revert to their old pattern when they are chatting. Reinforce their new skills when working with them by repeating the correct version of words back to them
- When a pupil does not use a target sound which you know they can produce you can ask them to have another go or provide a forced alternative for them to choose from

If you require any further support/advice please contact via the following email

[walsall.slt@nhs.net](mailto:walsall.slt@nhs.net)

In the subject line please state **FAO Virtual School Speech and Language Support** to ensure that your message is actioned by the relevant team