

# HOW CAN WE HELP AT HOME? KS3 & KS4

## Supporting Speech Sound Difficulties

- Listen to what the child/young person (CYP) is saying rather than how they are saying it
- When the CYP says a word incorrectly, acknowledge what they have said and then repeat the words back to them so they hear the correct version
- Encourage the use of sign / gesture / facial expression / drawing / writing (if needed) to help the CYP get their message across
- DO NOT try to teach the CYP to say words differently
- If you are carrying out a speech programme from the speech and language therapist it is important to only work on the targets set. For example, we may work on listening skills before a child can produce a sound consistently or we may ask you to produce just the sound before moving on to words beginning with the sound
- CYP 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 the CYP 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 the correct production
- If the CYP is following a home speech sound programme provided by a speech and language therapist provide encouragement and support to complete the agreed tasks at regular points throughout the week

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 SLCN Support team** to ensure that your message is actioned by the relevant team.