

## FREEDOM OF INFORMATION REQUEST

RF23-466

### Request:

1. Do you have a specialist dysfluency therapist or dedicated dysfluency pathway?
2. If so, how many therapists are there?
3. What is the process for being put on the dysfluency pathway?
4. What types of therapy approaches do your speech and language therapy service offer to children and young people who stammer?
5. What is the average waiting time for children and young people who stammer who are referred to the SLT service?
6. What is the average period/block of intervention for children and young people who stammer accessing your service? (e.g. once a week for six weeks)
7. Which Integrated Care System are your speech and language therapy services in?

### Response:

We can confirm East Kent Hospitals University NHS Foundation Trust (EKHUFT) holds the information you have requested.

1. Yes, we have a lead Specialist Therapist.
2. There is one dedicated specialist but all therapists in the team are expected to work with dysfluency. We have three localities with a minimum of four people in each locality.
3. The child is referred, the referral is then triaged and the family are invited to a dysfluency parent workshop.
4. We offer Palin Parent Child Interaction Therapy (PCI). For direct therapy, children are offered a variety of approaches including the Swindon approach.
5. For under eights the average wait is six weeks. However, over eights have been part of our standard waiting lists and were waiting up to nine months. We are currently in the process of changing this to mirror the under eights wait time so in future the anticipated wait time for over eights will be 6-8 weeks.
6. For Palin PCI six week blocks of weekly therapy followed by a six-week break. This is then repeated as needed. For other approaches this is more fluid and is led by the child/young person's need and therapy goals



7. Women's and children's directorate in an acute Trust

**(DATE OF RESPONSE: 14 AUGUST 2023)**