

# Entry criteria for the Language ARMS

## Brandling Primary School

A young person does not require a statement or Education Health Care Plan in order to access the Speech and Language ARMS.

The children will generally have previously received two cycles of clinic-based Speech and Language Therapy support, followed by a referral to the Developmental Language Disorder Team for an opinion about their suitability.

### **A Speech and Language ARMS placement may be appropriate if:**

- The young person has specific and significant speech and language difficulties (as determined by a Language Liaison Teacher in consultation with a Speech and Language Therapist) and these difficulties impact on the young person's ability to access the curriculum
- There is evidence that the young person's non-verbal skills are better than their verbal skills; plus there is evidence from school and/or a Speech and Language Therapist that they have benefitted from previous interventions
- The young person may have other difficulties but, at the time of entry, speech and language difficulties are their primary need
- The young person has the potential to work towards increasing inclusion within mainstream, with a view to returning to their local school full time.

### **It would not be appropriate to offer a place:**

- Where the primary problem is that of hearing loss, physical disability, social, emotional or mental health difficulties
- Where a receptive/expressive language disorder is part of a primary Autistic Spectrum condition. If a pupil receives a ASC diagnosis whilst in placement there will need to be consideration of how to most effectively continue to meet their needs
- If the child is in year 5 or above
- There are already 3 children from the ARMS in the relevant class

### **Entry Requirement and Process**

- A review at school recommends that a Speech and Language ARMS would be appropriate to meet the young person's primary need
- The recommendation is supported by a Speech and Language Therapist and either a HINT Language Liaison Teacher and/or an Educational Psychologist
- The Local Authority's SEND Panel agrees that a placement would be appropriate
- Where there are no places available in the ARMS the Local Authority will operate a waiting list. When a place does become available, discussion of the individual needs of all of the children on the waiting list will be carried out by the SEND Panel to decide upon placement. At the transition point of Key Stage 1 to Key Stage 2 this will also include those children already accessing a place in the ARMS

### **Exit Requirement and Process**

- Speech and language difficulties are no longer the young person's primary need
- The young person has residual language difficulties but these difficulties are no longer high priority or do not impact on their ability to access the curriculum and therefore their needs can be met within a mainstream setting.
- A review within the ARMS, including the Speech and Language Therapist and child's home school, recommends that a placement in the ARMS is no longer appropriate to meet the child's primary need
- The Local Authority's SEND Panel recommends future placement.