

## Making a case for speech, language and communication needs

### Email template

Your first step in making a case for speech, language and communication needs (SLCN) support might be to get a meeting with the person responsible for planning and funding support for SLCN.

This might be your local authority commissioner, a member of your clinical commissioning group (CCG), school leader or early years setting manager.

You can use this template to write a letter or send an email.

Where there are [square brackets], we suggest you change some of the wording to personalise it, add in detail or make it relevant to your situation.

Dear

***Bercow: Ten Years On: An independent review of provision for children and young people with speech, language and communication needs (SLCN)***

I am writing to you [on behalf of....] about this report, published on 20<sup>th</sup> March 2018.

The report drew on evidence from over 2,500 people. It found that currently, poor understanding of and insufficient resourcing for SLCN means too many children and young people receive inadequate, ineffective and inequitable support impacting on their education, their employability, and their mental health.

For example, only 15% of people who responded to the review felt that speech and language therapy was available as needed, and three quarters of people felt that support for SLCN was poor.\*

10% of all children and young people have SLCN, that is [insert number] in our [area/school/setting].

The report makes some strong recommendations and ways to take action, and also includes powerful case studies of impactful practice. I would welcome the opportunity to meet with you to talk about these in relation to the support for children and young people with SLCN in our [area/school/setting].

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\* Choose facts which you feel will be most impactful from the briefings, factsheets or from the report itself.