



NEWSLETTER

Issue 6 – Winter 2021

New Partnership between BSLTRU and Cardiff Metropolitan University

**BSLTRU are pleased to announce a new partnership
with the Speech, Hearing and
Communication Research Group at Cardiff
Metropolitan University's School of Sport and Health
Sciences (CSHSS)**

This is a great opportunity for BSLTRU which will now have a link with a speech and language therapy training institution. It also expands the research capacity and skills within Cardiff Met to develop a new strand of clinical research, building on its existing strengths in bilingual speech development and healthy and impaired hearing.

Director of BSLTRU and newly appointed Reader at CSHSS, **Dr Yvonne Wren** explains, 'Academic expertise across both institutions combined with close links with clinical services and patient communities in both Bristol and Wales will provide unprecedented opportunities for research'.

Dr Robert Mayr, lead for the Speech, Hearing and Communication Research Group at CSHSS commented, 'This will both expand research activity in the region and extend capacity for doctoral supervision, ensuring we are building a sustainable research active workforce for the future.'



Welcome to our Newsletter

Yvonne
Follow us on Twitter
and Facebook to
hear more about our
work and
opportunities as they
become available.
(see end of
newsletter)





Grant Success ...



BSLTRU is funded entirely through research grants. This funding enables us to carry out research which informs our work as speech and language therapists and contributes to the lives of those with communication or swallowing impairments and those who care for them.

BSLTRU are pleased to announce a successful outcome for our submission to the NIHR for funding to develop a minimal dataset for use with children with Speech Sound Disorder. Working with NHS trusts and specialist clinicians, we will determine the content and process for collecting a consistent set of data from children across the country who receive speech and language therapy for their speech problems. This will result in a large set of data that can be used to investigate the best treatments and care pathways for this population.

Jen Chesters, Senior Research Associate, BSLTRU and Deborah Mason, Speech & Language Therapist, North Bristol NHS Trust

were interviewed on

Radio Bristol - 23rd September 2021

They discussed work carried out on the

Underwood Trust

funded Covid Stammering study. It provided an excellent profile of the needs of people who stammer during the pandemic and how it has impacted on their communication



**Dr Yvonne Wren
Director, BSLTRU**

was awarded

**Giving Voice UK award
December 2021**



Naturally occurring communication opportunities: how do activity contexts affect the language that parents and children use?

Caitlin Holme, Sam Knight, Jo, Sam Robinson, Patrick J. Lucas, Yvonne Mearns
 CONTACT: caitlin.holme@bristol.ac.uk

Introduction

- Intervention for late talkers often focuses on how parents can support their child's communication within their everyday interactions and activities
- Ideas about how parents can foster child language are based on observations of interaction between parents and typically developing children
- Most study many studies look place in research laboratories and did not consider how the setting or activity might influence interaction
- In recent years naturally occurring methods have improved ecological validity, however studies lack contextual detail
- This synthesis review aimed to explore methodologies used to study parent-child language across activity contexts

Methods

This synthesis review followed Joanna Briggs Institute Methodology

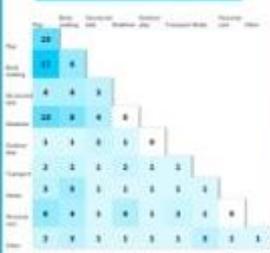
Eligibility criteria for inclusion was:

- Parent & pre-school child (age 3;0-5;11)
- Recording of parent-child language
- Comparison of 2+ activity contexts

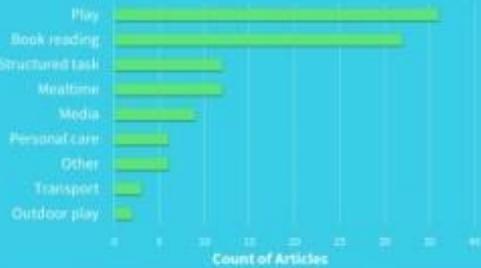
- 7 databases were searched
- 26,110 records were retrieved
- 22 articles included in final review

Results

Activity Contexts Compared



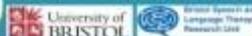
Frequency of Activities Studied



Discussion

- Most studies were based on structured, research-allocated designs, rather than naturally occurring contexts
- Most studies used play or book-reading contexts, however there were also the activities least frequently engaged in during naturalistic routines
- Quantity and type of interaction facts also across the day and across activities' interactions a bit depend on the meaning and structure of activities for different parents
- A more culturally competent approach to research and intervention might be consultation with individuals of families to consider how their daily activities and routines present naturally occurring communication opportunities

REFERENCES
 (List of references is present but illegible in the image)



CONGRATULATIONS

**Caitlin Holme
 PhD Student**

won the

**Best Poster
 Presentation Award
 'Late Talkers
 Workshop'**

hosted by the

**University of Warwick,
 August 2021**

Caitlin presented her findings from her PhD project titled 'Naturally occurring communication opportunities: how do activity contexts affect the language that parents and children use?'



Janine Andrews

Janine is a stroke clinical lead SLT at Dorset County Hospital with an interest in oral health. She is seconded to the HEE (South West) Mouth Care Matters programme and was recently supported by Yvonne and the BSLTRU team to complete an NIHR/HEE Integrated Clinical Academic Internship. Janine hopes to continue a clinical academic career and would like to thank everyone at BSLTRU who has supported her on her journey so far.

BSLTRU are pleased to be involved in leading the **International Association of Communication Sciences and Disorders Panel Series** titled, **What's in a name?**

What's in a name?
How should we describe and define speech sound disorder in children and why does it matter?

PANEL 3

9am GMT
17th February 2022
SSD and cleft palate

How differences in anatomy and physiology affect the way we label and describe SSD in children?

Panel speakers:
Dr Valerie Pereira, Chinese University of Hong Kong
Dr Lucy Southby, University of Bristol, UK

Chaired by Dr Yvonne Wren,
Bristol Speech and Language Therapy Research Unit

IALP
Child Speech Committee and Cleft Palate and Craniofacial Committee

Book via Event Brite:

New York, USA	Thu, 17 Feb 2022 at 04:00 EST
London, United Kingdom	Thu, 17 Feb 2022 at 09:00 GMT
Hong Kong, Hong Kong	Thu, 17 Feb 2022 at 17:00 HKT
Sydney, Australia	Thu, 17 Feb 2022 at 20:00 AEDT

A series of online meetings to discuss how we describe and define speech sound disorder in children. Two panels have taken place so far with over 500 attendees across both meetings. The next event takes place on **17th February** and has a focus on how differences in anatomy and physiology affect the way we label and describe children with speech sound disorder.

To book a place - <https://ialp-child-speech-panel-series-3.eventbrite.co.uk>

And finally



..... some of the BSLTRU team enjoying a socially distanced team building walk in the Cotswolds

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