

Cleft Collective Speech and Language Study

Monthly Update!

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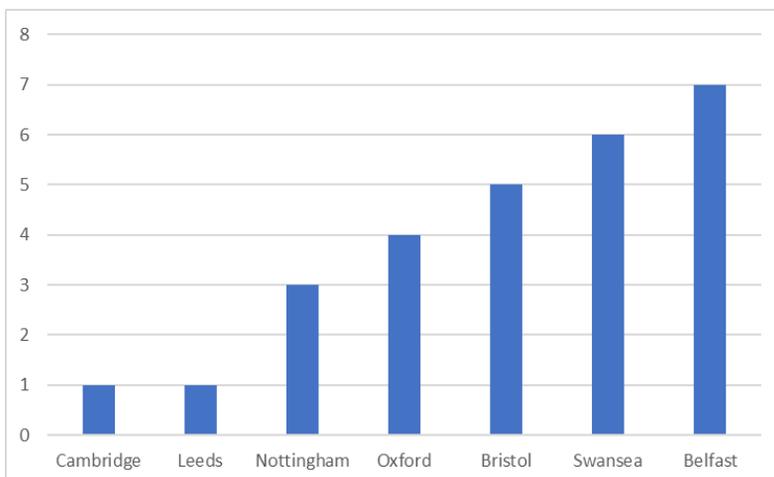


Recently we have been working with collaborators in Australia and Kuwait who are using data from the 18/24m and 36m SLT assessment forms to look at how phoneme inventories vary at age 18/24m and to see whether consonant production at 18/24m predicts consonant production at 36m. This analysis will help with prioritisation of children for intervention in the early years. It is great to see the data you have collected being used in this way. Moving research into impact!

During this analysis we noticed that a small number of the consonant inventories are unclear – specifically some phonemes have been written between the SIWI and SFWF rows. This has been interpreted as representing medial sounds but we are unsure if that is the case. Also, the symbol \emptyset is sometimes used to represent an omitted sound – but it is difficult to distinguish whether it is in fact the symbol for voiceless dental fricative. **Can you bear these points in mind as you complete your forms and make it clear by writing on the form for both use of symbols between rows and use of symbols to represent omission versus substitution.** This part of the form is analysed manually so we can read any comments you provide for clarification.



With all the challenges faced across teams this year, from service demands, staff shortages, and illnesses to research suspensions, it is a testament to the teams that between January and November 2021 you have recruited 27 parent/child pairs to the speech sub-study.



**Merry Christmas
and a peaceful
new year!**



The whole team would like to pass on our thanks for all your hard work during this particularly challenging year.

The project could not happen without all of your tireless efforts and we just wanted to take this opportunity to thank everyone for their continued contributions.



There will not be an update in January, but will be back in February 2022

As always please do get in touch with us if you need any resources, or if you have any questions.

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