

Thomas Fairchild Community School is a Language Resourced School

Thomas Fairchild Community School is a Language Resourced School (LRS) which has provision for 16 children who present with specific speech and language difficulties from across the borough of Hackney. Places are allocated by a panel of specialists at Hackney Learning Trust after consulting with parents, teachers and the pupil's school. Children who attend Thomas Fairchild Community School are not prioritised for the 16 LRS places. Places are awarded based on the child's level of speech and language difficulty and their potential to take advantage of intensive support.

Pupils within the LRS are taught within mainstream classes and are withdrawn for intensive support via individual programmes or small groups, with Speech and Language Therapist (SaLT) or a trained member of school staff. Support may also be provided within the classroom. As a LRS school we receive on-going training to ensure that we are able to support the learning and development of these pupils, including adapting lessons and setting targets for pupils to develop their receptive and expressive language skills*. We are very fortunate to have two resident SaLTs' at school to provide input for our pupils every week. Parents/carers of children in the LRS receive termly training with the SaLT alongside home programmes to ensure that pupil's language skills are maintained throughout school holidays.

There are two Language Resourced Schools (LRS) in Hackney - Thomas Fairchild which has 16 places and Sir Thomas Abney which has 22 places.

*Receptive language means the ability to understand or comprehend language heard or read. Expressive language means being able to put thoughts into words and sentences, in a way that makes sense and is grammatically accurate. If children have a speech and language impairment, it might affect their expressive language or their receptive language, or both, to a greater or lesser degree.

<http://www.afasic.org.uk/recognising-a-problem/speech-language-and-communication/receptive-and-expressive-language/>