

**Communication Works South
Seminar Programme**

Date: Wednesday 24th June 2026

Venue: Charlton Athletic Football Club, North Stand Suite, Enter via the “Fan’s Bar” Entrance, Harvey Gardens, Charlton, London SE7 8BL

9.15am – Registration Desk Open for Visitors

9.15am – 4.00pm – Exhibition Hall Open

10.00am – 10.10 Main Stage – Welcome – MC Khamani Edwards, CENMAC Student Voice Lead and Kathryn Stowell, Head of CENMAC

10.10am – 10.30am – Keynote Speaker - Gregor Gilmour, AT Mentor, ATtherapy

SEMINAR ROOM 1

SEMINAR ROOM 2

10.45 – 11.20

Seminar: Assistive Technology Lending Libraries

Presenters: Kathryn Stowell, Head of CENMAC & Mary Long, Deputy Head, CENMAC alongside a panel of those involved in “The Change Programme”

About: In 2025 CENMAC were pleased to share our knowledge, skills and experiences in advising and producing The Department for Education’s Assistive Technology Lending Library (ATLL) Guidance for “The Change Programme”. This pilot allows schools to borrow and trial a range of assistive technology. This session will be a panel discussion to showcase and hear about the progress and learning from this Assistive Technology Lending Library Pilot over the last year.

Seminar: Literacy for All: Rethinking Access, Expectations and Entitlement

Presenters: Chantal Bryan OBE, Director and Sarah Giles, Education & Training Lead, Teach Us Too

About: Literacy is not an optional extra, it is a right. Yet too often, pupils with complex needs are positioned outside of meaningful literacy instruction due to assumptions about cognition, communication or capacity. We will explore why literacy must remain central for every learner, what equitable literacy provision truly looks like for pupils with complex needs in specialist and mainstream settings, and how expectations shape outcomes. We will challenge common misconceptions, reflect on who may be missing from authentic literacy experiences, and consider practical shifts to ensure no pupil is excluded from the opportunity to read and write. This session is designed to provoke thought, strengthen professional resolve, and support leaders and practitioners to take purposeful next steps.

10 MINUTE BREAK – EXHIBITION TIME

11.30 – 12.15

Seminar: AT Mentoring and the Young Person’s Voice

Presenters: Gregor Gilmour, ATtherapy and Khamani Edwards, CENMAC Student Voice Lead, CEO, KJ’s Craft Time

About: Gregor Gilmour shares how he became an AT Mentor. He talks about what mentoring is and how it helps to share lived experience and knowledge with the young people he supports. CENMAC Student Voice Lead Khamani Edwards is joined by a group of young people who have formed the CENMAC Changemakers Collective. They will share how they hope to raise the profile and provide a platform for young people with SEND.

Seminar: AAC – A Parent’s Perspective

Presenter: Laura Brown, AAC, Autism & Inclusion Advocate, Spinning World of Autism

About: Join Laura to hear her lived experience perspective on introducing an AAC device to her autistic, non-speaking son - Ethan. Laura discusses their AAC magical moments & life changing highlights, whilst also reflecting on the barriers & AAC myths they have heard along the way. Laura will also discuss the story behind her current parliamentary campaign, "Speak Up for Autism". Join for top tips, video footage of Ethan in action on his AAC device & a boost of AAC advocacy.

12.15 to 1.00pm LUNCH BREAK & EXHIBITION TIME

Legends Bar in the CAFC North Stand Exhibition Hall will be open. Visitors can purchase pies (meat, vegan & vegetarian), sausage rolls, confectionary, soft drinks, tea & coffee.

Main Stage - Cosmo Music Performance with students from Charlton Park Academy

1.00 - 1.35

Seminar: Big Impact in Year One: How Charlton Manor Primary School Transformed Learning in Our First Year with CENMAC

Presenters: Maureen DeLonghi, CENMAC Advisory Teacher and Danielle Moriarty, Teaching Assistant at Charlton Manor Primary

Student Presenter: Denish, Year 5 pupil, Charlton Manor Primary

About: Charlton Manor Primary joined CENMAC for the first time last year, beginning with one referred student. CENMAC now supports four thriving learners, and with other referrals underway, the school has rapidly become a model of best practice. Join TA Danielle and Year 5 student Denish as they demonstrate how CENMAC tools have been fully embedded into everyday learning, showcasing the confidence, independence and creativity that this support has unlocked.

Seminar: Universal Approach to Power-based AAC in Education

Presenters: Abdi Omar, The Limitless Entrepreneur, AssistiveWare, Jabbla UK, Tobii Dynavox and Smartbox

About: Over the last four years CENMAC has piloted the universal approach to power-based AAC in partnership with AssistiveWare at Charlton Park Academy with amazing success. We work with many schools across London and use a variety of apps and software where increasingly power-based AAC supports teaching and learning via whole groups. This session will share what the various AAC providers are offering to support schools in the use of AAC in education and as part of total communication.

10 MINUTE BREAK – EXHIBITION TIME

	SEMINAR ROOM 1	SEMINAR ROOM 2
1.45 – 2.20	<p>Seminar: A Whole-School Approach to Assistive Technology at Middle Park Primary School Presenters: Carly Adkinson, CENMAC Advisory Teacher, Claire Evans, SENCO, Middle Park Primary and Charlotte Parody, AT Lead, Middle Park Primary Student Presenters: Members of the student tech team will share their hands-on experience supporting AT across the school. About: Middle Park Primary School (MPPS) has been on a whole-school journey to embed assistive technology (AT) across all year groups, ensuring every learner can access, engage with, and retain their learning. We will showcase how MPPS has built a sustainable, inclusive AT culture through strategic leadership, staff development, and thoughtful integration of digital tools such as Reading Pens, Voicepads, Clicker, Widget, Loops, Nesy, DreamBox, and more.</p>	<p>Seminar: Empowering Complex Learners: Leveraging AI and Personalised Assistive Technology for Inclusive Education Presenter: Clare Thorn, Teacher, Pioneer School About: This session explores the transformative impact of Artificial Intelligence (AI) in supporting learners with complex needs (PMLD). By moving beyond traditional printed symbols, Clare will demonstrate how AI-generated imagery, personalised music, and bespoke video content can foster deep engagement through positive representation. Featuring practical examples from my classroom, ranging from custom Star Wars and Minions resources to songs featuring students' own names. This presentation highlights how personalised, AI-driven tools can create meaningful connections for students who struggle to engage with standard resources.</p>
<p>20 MINUTE BREAK - EXHIBITION TIME</p> <p>MAIN STAGE - RAFFLE</p>		
2.40 – 3.10	<p>Seminar: Universally Accessible Software: Making the most of what you've already got! Presenter: David Howard, CENMAC Advisory Teacher About: In this session David will focus on Microsoft and Chrome accessibility tools. These tools come with the software however they are sometimes not utilised to their greatest advantage. David will show you how to get the most out of these tools.</p>	<p>Seminar: Just Because I Can't Talk, Doesn't Mean I Don't Understand Presenter: Bob Sagoo, Parent of Harchie About: Bob Sagoo's son Harchie sadly passed away unexpectedly just before Christmas 2024. This is a posthumous session about this amazing young man, co-presented by his Dad, Bob. Via video taken while he was alive, Harchie share's his insights on his AT/AAC journey, his thoughts for the future, and what innovations he would like to see, all narrated by him via his eyegaze communication device. Bob will also give a parent's perspective and also how Harchie's legacy continues through his foundation The Harchie Way.</p>
<p>10 MINUTE BREAK – EXHIBITION TIME</p>		
3.20 – 3.50	<p>Seminar: Built-in Inclusion - Quick Tech Tips to Remove Barriers to Learning with LGfL Presenter: Bradley Dardis, Learning Resources Consultant, LGfL About: Navigating the world of inclusive technology can be daunting, with numerous complex and often expensive programs and apps available, making it overwhelming to find the right tools. LGfL has created a space where you can access specific, actionable instructions for the most commonly used platforms, all in one place, allowing you to focus on what truly matters: teaching and inspiring your students. This session will provide you with an insight into the resource and how to use it effectively to support your learners'.</p>	<p>Seminar: Beyond Eye-gaze Presenters: Charlie Danger, Advanced Practitioner in AAC & Assistive Technology and Luke Thompson, Specialist in Assistive Technology About: At CENMAC, we want referrals to focus less on a single technology and more on what the pupil needs to do: the activities, learning tasks and communication opportunities they want to access. This talk will look at how we match pupils to the right access methods, whether that is eye-gaze, switches, head-pointers, adapted keyboards, touch, joysticks, trackballs or other assistive technology. The session will include practical examples of access tools used every day at CENMAC and will help staff think about making better referrals based on tasks and participation, not just equipment.</p>
4.00pm	<p>END</p>	

PROGRAMME: SUBJECT TO CHANGE