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Sensory Inclusion Service | Floor 2, Darby House, Telford & Wrekin Council, Lawn Central, Telford, TF3 4JA



## Who's Who?

**My name is Ruth Lawton and I have been working as a Teacher of the Deaf for SIS since September 2014.**

Having a profoundly deaf aunty and parents who both started their teaching careers as Teachers of the Deaf, I always had the desire to become one myself. Growing up I saw how rewarding and inspiring supporting hearing impaired young people could be and knew from a young age that this was the career for me.



After studying English Language and Literature at Liverpool University, I went on to train as a Secondary English teacher and following completing my NQT year in a Stafford school, I worked for a number of years as an English teacher in Telford. I love now having the opportunity to work across the age ranges, as my current caseload includes children from 0-20 years. I especially enjoy having the opportunity to support HI children and young people in a range of different settings, as well as working with their families. I am proud to work for a team who are so passionate about achieving the best possible outcomes for HI children and young people.

Outside of work I love socialising with friends and spending time with family. I currently have a 3½ year old son who makes me laugh every day. He is due to start school next year, which is taking a bit of getting used to for me! He is getting very excited about Christmas, as I am sure you all are.

**Merry Christmas and Happy New Year to you all!**



## Save the date

**Spring Charity Ball**  
Saturday 20 May 2017

SDCS will be hosting a charity ball to raise funds on Saturday 20 May at The Lord Hill Hotel in Shrewsbury.

Tickets are priced at £40 per person or £35 for a table of 10 and will include a welcome drink, a three course meal and coffee. There will be a live band and a DJ for your entertainment.

If you would like to book tickets please contact Dawn Ball on **07794032904** or email **dawn.ball@telford.gov.uk**

£10 deposit required.

## Sponsored Bike Ride update

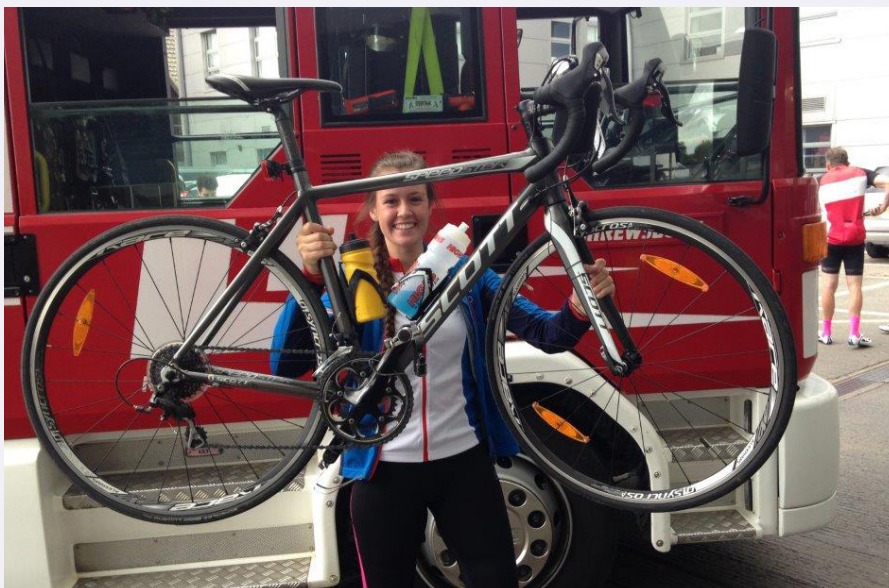
I cycled 239 miles around Shropshire, stopping at each fire station, with my dad and a group of fire-fighters. We completed this challenge over three days, full of determination and aching muscles. This was to raise awareness of the Fire-Fighter's charity and for me, Shropshire Deaf Children's Society.

The reason I chose to support this charity is because I have a profound hearing loss. I wear a cochlear implant in my left ear, and this charity has supported me lots in the past in a variety of ways.

I completed training sessions at Stourport Cycle track with Go-Ride, Women and Girls Rider Development sessions with British Cycling which helped me to prepare.

I still can't believe I finished the whole thing! I am so proud of myself for getting to each station! And raising over £900 to be divided between the charities. Just want to say Thank you to everyone who has supported me on this journey and it helped me raise this money for SDCS.

### Katie Laffey



## Condover Hall



On Saturday 9 July a group of fifteen secondary aged students went to Condover Hall for an action packed day.

The students participated in activities including high ropes, zip wire and canoeing. All the students and staff who attended this day had a very enjoyable time. It was pleasing that the students pushed themselves to complete activities which were challenging and out of their comfort zone.

It was fantastic to see old friendships being renewed and new ones formed and most of all to see them overcome their fears to complete the activities. A great day was had by all!

## Wax Removal

When required this can be organised by the Teachers of the Deaf on the team through the Children's Hearing Services Clinic.

Some children have also seen the ear care nurse at RSH. This service is now not being delivered at RSH, however it will continue to be delivered at PRH. If a child requires wax removal at RSH it will be arranged through the TOD with the ENT Consultant.

At PRH initial referral will be to the ENT Consultant via the TOD. The ENT Consultant will then decide whether to allow the child to be seen by the ear care nurse based at PRH. At this point further appointments will be arranged by the ear care nurse.





## Cochlear Care

Cochlear Care are the company who support repairs /replacements for children and young people using Cochlear devices. It is important for families to be aware that the company will often contact their customers with news on new devices and equipment. These devices are on some occasions not supported by implant programmes and it is important not to assume that any device advertised will be provided at any upgrade.

## Duke's Barn

In summer we went to Dukes Barn Activity Week which was run by the Ear Foundation. It was good to meet up with other young people with a hearing loss and who understood you. We did canoeing, caving, river walking and zip wiring but the best day was when we went to Alton Towers. We had to get up at 6:30 for Alton towers, my favourite ride was Oblivion and we got straight on it without queuing. We were in the same bedroom sharing with four other girls and we all got on really well. The food was delicious. Breakfast was the best; we got a full English breakfast every morning!

In the evenings we would do different things each night, one

night we played games outside, that was fun. We would go to bed at 10:30 lights had to be out at 11 but we would always stay up later although I generally was the first one asleep. Before bed we always got hot chocolate and biscuits. The canoeing took up a whole day but was really fun. When we got to the end after over an hour of canoeing we were allowed to jump in. At first I wasn't going to do it, then we made a deal, Rhian jumped in first then got back in the canoe and we jumped together. It was freezing!

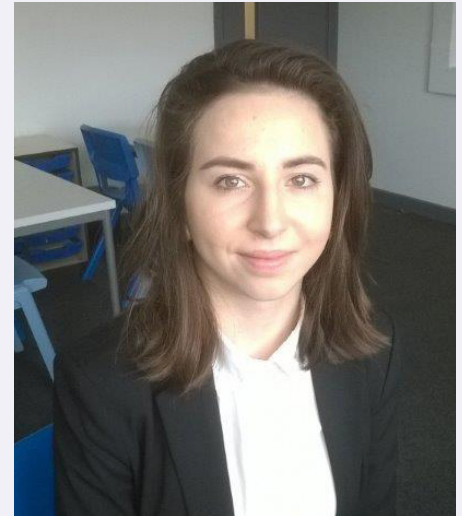
We made lots of friends and we're still in contact with them - we speak every week. It was a really good experience; we really loved it and would love to go again!

**Sophie Fuller and Rhian O'Toole**



## National Citizen Service

Weronika Wrobel



I first became interested after a presentation at school. At half term I went to PGL Liddington on a four day residential course.

I didn't know anyone to begin with and became friends with the girls in my room. We had group meetings to get to know each other. On the second day we did different activities like climbing. On the third day we went on a nine hour hike which was very hard.

These activities helped us to get to know each other so that we could work together more effectively. We thought of ideas to raise money and what kind of charity work we could do in the local area.

It was tiring but fun and I met new people and feel that we are doing something helpful for the community.

Since I came back I have been to a local meeting where we were planning what we were going to do to renovate the garden in a local care home. We had to think of ideas for a mural for the garden and my idea is being used.

# Achievements

Well done to all of you



## Rhian O'Toole



Rhian recently received a Maths award at a celebration evening at HLC. Rhian was delighted to receive this award as she has worked very hard towards her GCSEs.

Keep up the good work Rhian!



## Great Whitchurch Bake Off

Amy Griffiths from Sir John Talbots in Whitchurch held a cake sale to raise funds for SDCS. Amy, her friends and family worked hard baking cakes to sell at break time and raised £126.36.

Well done Amy and friends!

## Sleepover Success

Beatrice Hadwen from Clun nominated SDCS as the chosen charity for Clun Methodist Church. A group of young people from the local area held a sleepover at the local church, where they made shelters for themselves out of cardboard boxes, played games, arts and crafts and listened to a talk from Beatrice and Ian Barrett (Chair of SDCS) about hearing loss. The village also had a street collection and local schools got involved by holding non uniform days. In total the event raised over £550 for the SDCS. Thank you to all involved.



## Charity Quiz Night

Cheri Williams (Nan to Tammy Richardson) organised a charity quiz night to raise funds for Shropshire Deaf Children's Society and Ellerdine Village Hall. The evening was a great success and raised £78.50 for each charity. Many thanks for to all that organised and attended the evening.

