



## Model of Human Occupation

### Archived List Serv Discussion

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#### **Children with Communication Disorders**

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**November 27, 2008**

Hi

I have just started a new job setting up an Occupational Therapy service in a school for children with communication disorders. The school currently caters for 11-19year olds but after Christmas will have an intake of Keystage 2 (from 7years old). Most of the children are on the Autistic spectrum, with a wide range of cognitive ability. I am wanting to use the COSA and SCOPE as assessments and have MOHO as a framework for the service. I am wondering if there are any other OT's out there who work in similar settings, what their experience has been - and any advice on the way to go would be greatly appreciated!

Thanks

Jane Woodburn

**December 2, 2008**

Hi Jane

From experience with this group, ongoing assessments and in a variety of settings, (?using Mohost) is often necessary due to the time it takes for this group to engage in the therapeutic process. Sensory/motor assessment also useful among the tools. Important to remember the specific approach needed with this group, i.e. literal interpretation of questions, lacking often of a frame of reference (difficult for them to understand what "feeling better" or "worse" means... Individual approach based on visual clues such as pictorial emotions worth trying. Research with children is abundant so you should be able to use evidence-based practice though this is a growing field and much still to be found out, especially from an OT perspective.

Good luck

Katherine Lord

**December 10, 2008**

Hi Jane

I used to work in a similar school to yourself - we used the school AMPS and the AMPS for the older children and found them very useful - particularly the process side for those on the autistic spectrum

Regards  
Sally