

What Works Moderating Group member **Role Description**

Background:

[What Works](#) is a moderated online library of evidenced interventions that aim to support children's speech, language and communication. It helps early years practitioners, teachers, school leaders, and speech and language therapists (SLTs) find the most appropriate interventions for children and young people by providing a free and easily accessible overview of the evidence base for each intervention.

What Works has been developed from a report by the Better Communication Research Programme (BCRP). Please click [here](#) to read the full report entitled, '*What Works*: Interventions for children and young people with speech, language and communication needs.

What Works Moderating Group:

The purpose of the **What Works Moderating Group (MG)** is to ensure that *What Works* remains as up-to-date and comprehensive as possible through a robust and independent process to ensure quality and fairness of approach. The Group is responsible for reviewing and approving new submissions to the database and steering on improvements made to the website based on user feedback.

Time commitment

1. The anticipated time required to fulfill this role would be expected to be in the region of 5 hours per quarter; 2 hours for Moderating Group meeting, 2 hours for preparation and 1 hour for actions from meeting or moderating training submissions.

Responsibilities

There are currently four members, James Law, Julie Dockrell, Emma Pagnamenta and Yvonne Wren (Yvonne will be leaving the group in 2017). The new member will be joining this group to share the **specific responsibilities** below-

2. Agree criteria for both *What Works* intervention and training database.
3. Attend quarterly meetings (2pm-4pm in June, Sept, Dec and March) at The Communication Trust's (TCT) office, London. Dates are agreed based on Moderating Group availability at the beginning of each financial year.
4. Moderate submissions to the **What Works intervention** database according to the agreed criteria.
5. Read completed proforma and supporting evidence materials for each of the interventions submitted to the MG in advance of each meeting.
6. Engage in professional discussion and debate to decide whether the intervention can be included on *What Works* against criteria.

7. If the intervention meets criteria, support TCT with written content for website.
8. If the intervention doesn't meet criteria, support TCT with written feedback.
9. Moderate submissions to the **What Works training** database (on rotation with other members) generally equates to reading 2 papers per year.
10. Read all completed proforma and supporting evidence for each submission. Inform TCT of decision regarding whether the training programme meets criteria within 2 weeks of receiving submission.
11. Promote *What Works* and engage with *What Works* audience within existing role.
12. Support TCT with encouraging submissions to both databases.

Remuneration

13. You will be paid £500 for each Moderating Group meeting; this includes preparation pre meeting, attendance at the meeting and any post meeting actions.
14. You will be reimbursed for travel expenses to and from the meeting. Please note this does not include subsistence or accommodation for overnight stay unless pre agreed with TCT.

See overleaf for 'Person Specification' and for details of how to apply

Person Specification – Moderating Group Member

CRITERIA	ESSENTIAL	DESIRABLE
EXPERIENCE	<p>Qualified in an area relevant to children's speech, language and communication (minimum of Masters level)</p> <p>Evidence of research activity in area relevant to children's speech, language and communication.</p> <p>Currently active in clinical research/a practitioner researcher.</p>	<p>Post doctorate in an area relevant to children's speech language and communication.</p> <p>Specialism in the clinical areas of speech or social communication.</p> <p>Practical experience of intervention research</p>
KNOWLEDGE	<p>Expertise in research methods and evidence based practice.</p> <p>Expertise in children's speech language and communication.</p> <p>Sound understanding of intervention research and theory.</p>	
OTHERS	<p>Committed to the overall aims of <i>What Works</i> including supporting practitioners to make evidence informed decisions.</p>	

If you are interested in this role, please send in your CV with a cover letter outlining why you are interested in the role and how you meet the person specification (max one side of A4) by **1st Dec 2016** to enquiries@thecommunicationtrust.org.uk