



Abstract: The Lifespan of Children with Developmental Communication Impairments: Adult Outcomes, Life Experiences and Implications for Service Provision

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There is much more interest in understanding the life experiences and outcomes of children with developmental communication impairments (Conti-Ramsden & Durkin 2008; Conti-Ramsden, Durkin, Simkin & Knox 2009; Clegg, Ansorge, Stackhouse & Donlan 2012; Clegg, Hollis, Mawhood & Rutter 2005; Palikara, Lindsay & Dockrell 2009). Such research has the potential to further our understanding of the developmental trajectories of these impairments from childhood into adult life and to enable more effective service provision over the lifespan.

The presentation aims to:

- 1) give an overview of the research documenting the longer-term outcomes of children with developmental communication impairments;
- 2) showcase the current research from the University of Sheffield, UK investigating into the life experiences and outcomes of children with developmental communication impairments;
- 3) consider the challenges of research in this area and;
- 4) understand how this research can inform health, education and social services provision for this vulnerable group of children, young people and adults.